

Need to know

Nursery Manager Justine Richardson
Deputy Manager Emma Avery

Although we charge for all hours, whether attended or not, we are able to remove lunch charges for planned absences. We need 2 weeks notice of any absence. Meals will be charged for unplanned absences like sickness as we plan our catering needs 10 days in advance.

To ensure that we are correctly staffed at all times we ask that you adhere to your booked times. If you drop off early or pick up late, our staffing may not be adequate. To deter this, we charge if you pick up late or drop off early. Please also note that nursery will close at 6pm promptly. If your current hours need changing please speak to Jackie.

As of 1st October we no longer accept card payments over the phone. You are still able to make card payments at nursery in person, via the ParentZone app and via our website.

If any of your contact details change please remember to update them with us.

Nice to know

All nursery policies are available for you to read on our website. To access them, you will need to login – please contact the nursery manager for details.

You can view our 4-week menu online at www.bristolchildcare.co.uk/meals/menus.

You can contact Managing Director Saffia Bullock at any time via e-mail: saffia.bullock@bristolchildcare.co.uk

Bank Holiday Reminder

We will close at 3pm on Thursday 24 December and re-open on Monday 4 January

If you have any comments or feedback, please email us at: priory@bristolchildcare.co.uk

Welcome from Justine

Hello to you all,

Just a short message from myself and the team.

As we have had to close the baby room and staff have had to self-isolate we would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your patience and understanding.

We understand that this is a difficult time for you as well and if you need to talk about anything with regards to this circumstance feel free to email or call us and we will do our best to support you.

We are all truly grateful for the immediate actions you are all taking when you feel your child needs to be tested for coronavirus.

Please continue to let any one of us know if you or your child has any type of symptoms so that we can inform the local authorities and keep us all safe.



Please remember ParentZone is our key to communication so make sure you do not miss out on seeing the wonderful activities that have been happening inside our nursery.

Please don't forget to wear a mask or visor when dropping off and collecting your child.

Justine

Dates for your Diary

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|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Christmas Jumper Day | 11th December |
| Christmas sing song Preschool | 17th and 21st December 11.15 am |
| Christmas sing song | 21st December 11am |
| Christmas Party | 22nd December 2-4pm |
| Christmas Lunch | 23rd December |





Looking after each other

As we look back on 2020 we can see what an extraordinary year it has been – it still does not seem real what we are all living through.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for the support you have shown us. One of the positives of the adversity we have faced is the teamwork that has been created; I feel as if our Bristol Childcare community has been strengthened with our staff teams and parents working together to support each other for the benefit of the children, so thank you all for your part in that.

It's important that we all keep working together to keep each other safe, which is such an important part of our ethos and the British Values of respecting each other.

Please keep yourself updated with government guidance about self-isolating and coronavirus symptoms and please ask your nursery manager if you are unsure; the key is that if anyone in the household has symptoms or is awaiting a test result, you must stay at home until the test returns negative; as always, if children are unwell, it's not suitable for them to be at nursery. This remains a key part of our child-led care.

Staff training

In September each nursery team took part in safeguarding training with Elizabeth from BAND. It was fantastic to see how strong each team was, and how staff benefited from the experience of being questioned – this helps build confidence for when Ofsted resume inspections!

As a result of this training, we have evaluated that we should update the names of our safeguarding documentation. The "CP1" form which you sign should your child have a mark from an accident at home, will now be called the Accident at Home form to clarify its purpose. Please ask your nursery manager for more information if you are unsure about this.

It's more important than ever now to celebrate successes, so I'd like to close by sharing some of Elizabeth's comments.

"Staff gave me some insightful answers to the questions and had great knowledge of particular safeguarding topics.

The nursery team have a really good understanding of their duty to protect the welfare of children...

Staff seemed attuned to changes in children's family's lives and know the families well. There is an ongoing commitment to safeguarding..."

As we move towards the Christmas and festive season, I hope that you all find ways to connect and celebrate with your families. We will be doing things a little differently this year, but our focus will remain on staff and children learning and playing together, having fun doing so, and sharing this with you.

With kind regards,

Saffia



Justine Richardson - 30 Years with Bristol Childcare

On Friday 28 August 2020 we celebrated that Justine Richardson has worked for Bristol Childcare for 30 years. We held a small socially-distanced party with a presentation, cake and non-alcoholic fizz in the garden at The Priory with staff and children and Justine's family and friends.

Saffia Bullock, Managing Director says "Justine was employed by my parents, Bruce and Sue Farr, in 1990. It was her first job straight from college. She started as a nursery practitioner then worked her way up from Deputy Manager to Nursery Manager to Group Manager. After a serious illness and long period of recuperation, Justine returned to work and now heads up the team at The Priory. She is a fantastic role model to staff.

"We are celebrating Justine's sense of fun, her creativity and resourcefulness – she is always upcycling things at her sewing machine, making blankets and peg bags from old nursery uniform. She has a passion for childcare; she is committed and dedicated, 100% reliable and always does what is needed to get the job done. She loves singing and she has an infectious laugh!



We are very proud that Justine has been working for us for 30 years and are delighted to celebrate this today."



Sue Farr, co-founder of Bristol Childcare says "I remember at interview that Justine told me that one of her teachers at college, studying for the NNEB, was Miss Bastin. I knew that if Justine had been taught by her, she was worth snapping up! Justine has been with us through good times and bad and we have lots of happy memories."

Recalling her interview, Justine says "I remember Sue asking me if I could cook and when I said yes she said I could have the job! I then went on holiday and broke my leg, but I still came back to work! It doesn't feel like 30 years, I think because every day is different when you work with children. There is always something to look forward to."

Sally King, Deputy Manager at Mornington House who has worked for Bristol Childcare with Justine for 21 years, wrote and performed a song to honour the occasion. Sally says "Justine and I liked to write special musical nativities – we had an Abba theme and a Beatles theme, so it seemed apt that I write a song for Justine." The song is to the tune of The House of the Rising Sun.

"She'll go the extra mile
Help you out when you're in need
She cares about the future
Of your company."

"You'll never find a better girl
Who always works so hard
Spends hours reading Nursery World
And shares it all out loud."

Thank you Justine for 30 years of hard work, commitment, fun, care, singing and laughter



Keeping Safe

Should you or your child display any symptoms, it is vital that you are tested as soon as possible and your child does not attend nursery until the test is returned negative.

Please keep us updated as promptly as you can. We very much appreciate your support with this as it is a key preventative measure. If possible, please attend a test centre as the postal tests can take days to arrive and be returned – we are finding that most people have received a response within 24 hours of attending a test centre.



There are now four test centres in and around Bristol:

Walk-through at Netham Park, Redfield, BS5 9RU

Walk-through at Victoria Rooms Car Park, Clifton, BS8 1SA

Drive-through at UWE Frenchay Campus, BS16 1ZG

Drive-through at Bristol Airport, Silver Zone Parking, BS48 3DY

Tests should be booked online at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

Babies News

The Babies have been enjoying the outdoors recently, splashing in lots of puddles and pushing other children round in cars and on bikes.



We have also been planting daffodil bulbs with Justine in our baby garden, the children learnt to dig holes ready for the bulbs to be planted, we cant wait to see these grow!

Thank you to all the children who dressed up for Halloween, the outfits were amazing!! We carried out some Halloween crafts including making pumpkin cupcakes and painting our pumpkins, we loved getting messy!



We also made pumpkin soup for lunch with help from Heather.



Twos News



Making and baking bread:

Our Nursery Cook Heather came to visit the 2s room and showed us how to make bread.

The children had the opportunity to knead the dough and watch it rise, once baked in the oven they enjoyed their home-made loaf for tea.



Two's have also loved getting involved with Halloween activities. We started off our week by making pumpkin cupcakes where the children got to add all the ingredients to the bowl and even helped scoop out the pumpkin insides. We ate the pumpkin cupcakes we made for our tea and they went down a treat!

The children also loved decorating our pumpkin by using glue and a variety of different materials. We placed the pumpkin downstairs and the children love showing their parents when they are collected.



We had lots of fun dressing up for Halloween and we had a variety of different costumes.



Preschool News



Justine and Muna spent time with a few Preschool children planting a variety of spring bulbs in the nursery garden.

The children used the wheelbarrows for the soil and dug in the borders to plant the bulbs. We also used old wellington boots to plant daffodil bulbs that can be displayed around the garden.

We hope to have an abundance of colour!!

We have been learning all about the world around us and the many festivals and traditions that the children in Preschool celebrate. We created firework paintings and were lucky enough to watch the sparklers outside in the dark, we held a 2-minute silence for Remembrance Day and we celebrated Diwali by making Diva lamps and creating henna patterns!





At the end of October the Priory were given an ENORMOUS Home-Grown Pumpkin to explore.

The children used a range of tools to pierce the pumpkins.

We have been learning all about how to use tools safely, creating patterns and shapes using elastic bands; using lots of mathematical language as they observed the amount and size of the holes they had created.

This is a fantastic activity that can be repeated again and again.

Who knows where the pumpkin will take us next....?



Wands for Wildlife

Thank you to all staff and parents who donated mascara wands. These have now been sent off to the Arc Wildlife Centre to help with the animal care.

At Head Office we are still collecting old pens and biros and plastic beauty product containers that can now be returned to Boots. We are reviewing how we can organise for nurseries to be collection points while parents are dropping off and picking up outside and will keep you updated. Our environmental focus remains at the core of how we operate Bristol Childcare.



Bristol Childcare

would like to wish you a happy and restful Christmas and New Year break.

Here's to a happy and healthy 2021