

Need to know

Nursery Manager Justine Richardson
Deputy Manager Eloise Howells

Although we charge for all hours, whether attended or not, we are able to remove meal package 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 Justine.

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. Our cycle of Winter Menus started on 1st November, you can find them on our website.

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

Bank Holiday Closures

Nursery will close at 3pm on Friday 23 December and reopen at 7.30am on Tuesday 3 January 2023.

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

Welcome from Justine

Welcome to lots of new families that have joined us recently. I hope you have all been made welcome and it is great to have you join us at the Priory family.

If there is anything you need or are unsure of, please ask. We are always looking to improve, so if you have recently joined us and have been sent a parent questionnaire, please could you return via email.

There have been lots of new activities recently in nursery and we always like to share these with you. If you have any photos of new activities/experiences, please could you share them with us by uploading them through ParentZone.



Christmas food bank

This year we will be doing our donations to the local food bank again. This was an amazing success last year and the local food bank was very grateful for all the donations. In reception there will be a large basket where donations can be placed. We will be starting this at the start of November all the way through until Christmas. The local food bank has created a list of items they are currently low on, and we will keep updating this list and place it on the basket, however we completely understand the cost of living crisis currently so any donations would be appreciated.

Hairdressing

Tash the hairdresser will be coming into nursery every other month to cut your child's hair if you wish. The date she will be attending will be given out on ParentZone. Prices are as follows :

Fringe trim £3.00

Fringe trim with wispy bits around the face and ears £5

Spray trim/ cut all over £8.00

Spray/clipper cut £8.00

Justine

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 14th December
Christmas Nativity (Pre-school only) 2-3pm

Thursday 15th December
Christmas Singalong (2s and B/R) This will be filmed only
10-11am

Monday 19th December
Christmas Party (All Children) 2-4pm

Thursday 22nd December
Christmas Lunch (All Children)



Update from Saffia Bullock, Managing Director



Welcome to the last Bristol Childcare newsletter of the year!

We hope you enjoy our quarterly round up of news and photos. There are lots of exciting celebrations going on at the moment – of Autumn and for Diwali – and it's exciting to hear ideas of what the staff would like to do to celebrate Christmas and other festivals in December, incorporating what is important to our families. I hope you enjoy all of these.

In October we welcomed Nicky Agar to the Head Office team. You might see Nicky in nursery on Thursdays when delivers all the food, stationery and nappies! To help you recognise staff, as well as the family trees in nursery, we include a photo of the Head Office team in the Welcome Letter you all receive in your Welcome and Induction Pack. I thought this was a good opportunity to remind you all who is in the team and to introduce Nicky.



From left: Matthew Bullock – Finance Manager, Justine Clifford – Billing; Anna Cattermole – Accounts; Joanne Osborne – Receptionist and Administrator; Saffia Bullock - Managing Director and Nicky Agar – Assistant to the Managing Director.

Supporting good oral health

This link has been shared with us to share with parents – there are lots of links to information about oral health which you might find useful:

<https://essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk/oral-health-resources>

Talking Tots

As a group of 3 nurseries, we have been reflecting on both our phonics group times and French lessons. As you will all know, the development of communication and language is crucial as the foundation for learning and progress in all areas and underpins emerging literacy skills. With this in mind, we have decided to pause the French lessons and instead have a term of sessions with Talking Tots. We had Talking Tots sessions over the summer and the children loved it.

Shelley, who will be running the sessions, says:

"Sparklers is a fun-packed class designed especially for early years

children. Research shows that children learn to read only once they have good phonological awareness, so an understanding of and an ability to manipulate the sounds and syllables that are used in language. Talking Tots uses exclusive games and learning activities to help children become confident with sounds, words, rhyme and rhythm - vital pre-literacy skills that will help children when it's time to learn to read and write. The sessions also combine exciting group and individual activities to help boost the concentration and social skills that children will need in the classroom."

The sessions will be on a Monday at 1.15pm

Katie, SENCo at The Priory says:

"Talking Tots really helped the children at The Priory to build on their communication skills. Over the weeks the children's listening and attention skills improved massively with some children at the start not sitting at all to them being involved in all the activities. The children would be excited when they were told Talking Tots were coming on the day. They enjoyed playing the different games Shelley provided which helped to improve their turn taking skills as well as listening and attention. The sessions are a mixture of sat down focused activities and physical activities such as the GO game which was one of their favourites. The children gained confidence over the sessions which in turn helped their communication contributing to all aspects of their development.

Having Talking Tots also helped the staff as it gave them new ideas, knowledge and confidence on how to further support children's communication and language."

You can find out more at the Talking Tots website - www.talkingtots.co.uk

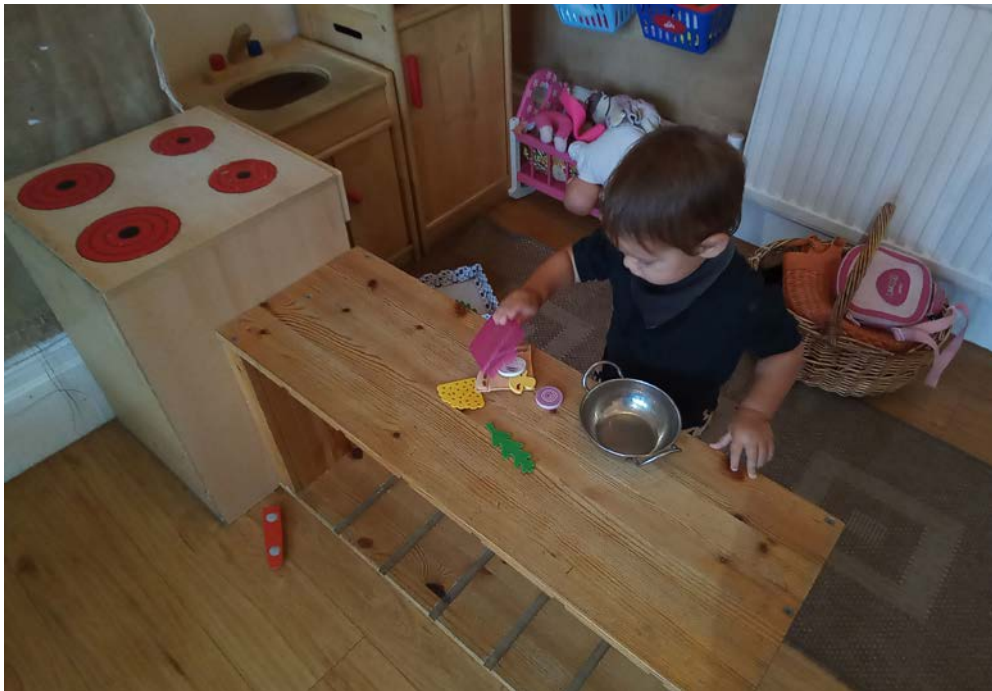
Saffia

Talking Tots
• 4 months to 5 years •

FUN CLASSES WHERE CHATTER MATTERS

- ☆ Fun filled, interactive classes that help your child develop life's most important skill... to communicate with confidence.
- 🗨️ Develop self esteem & social confidence.
- 👂 Boost attention & listening
- 🗨️ Improve vocabulary & expressive language
- 🗨️ Encourage turn taking & sharing
- 🗨️ Introduce phonics play

For more information & to find your nearest class find us at www.talkingtots.co.uk



Recently we changed our baby room around slightly and since we have done this, the babies have been more engaged in our home corner. Some of the children have loved making food and handing it out to their friends or staff, whilst some have loved mixing different food items together.

Some of our children also love climbing into our sink. When they climb in, they love playing peek-a-boo with everyone and give lots of smiles.



Twos

The Twos children made some Halloween shortbread. The children all took turns to add the ingredients and they all had chance to mix it. We spoke about all the ingredients we needed. Once we made the dough, we put some flour on the table and they all took turns to make a cookie with a cutter. They really enjoyed making the shortbread and they were very proud of their creations



Preschool

What else can you do when it's raining?

The children planned a trip to the park but it started to rain, so a quick decision was made and all pre school children went to Filton Soft Play. They all had a wonderful time!!





We've had some amazing Autumn activities at The Priory. This was a pre-school activity with pumpkins, pinecones and books; all part of our curriculum. It was a wonderful sensory and exploratory activity.

The children have enjoyed creating different shapes on the pumpkin using hammers, elastic bands, golf tees and pins. The outcomes of learning were fine motor skills, shape recognition, turn taking, using hammers and pins safely, sharing and teamwork.

We have been supervising the whole time and explained handling tools safely.



Making own perfume

Following on from mixing mud in the garden, the pre school children made their own perfume potion. They used petals and lavender mixed together with water. Each child had their own bowl to mix their potion and filled their own bottle to take home.

Preschool

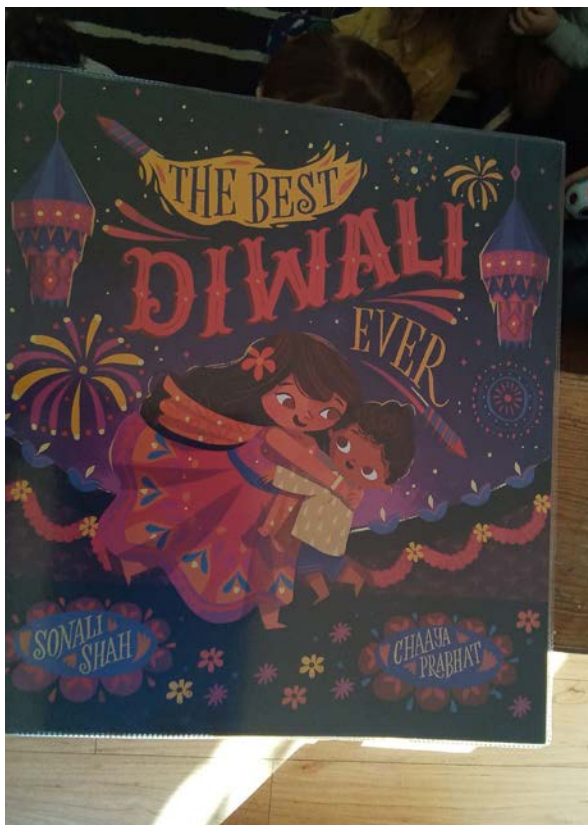
When we were in the garden some children were interested in the sunflower seeds that were on the ground. To extend their interest I brought the sunflower inside and placed it on the table. Some children came over to the table to look at it and found it fascinating how the enormous sunflower had small seeds in. We talked about the sizes and the season we plant. Some children requested if they could take the seeds home. Happy growing !



Happy Diwali

We had a visit from Margaret the Librarian. Margaret brought a few books with her to read to the pre-school children.

Hopefully in a few weeks we will walk to the Library. We can choose a few books to bring back to nursery to read ourselves.



Preschool

In the moment planning.

Muna observed children exploring the mud in the garden. The children mixed lots of ingredients such as leaves, twigs, bark and chippings. One child commented 'it's rainbow slime'. Once they were inside Muna then suggested they research how to make their own slime.

This is what she found:

Ingredients:

1 Cup PVA Glue

1 Cup water

1 Tablespoon of paint (colour of children's choice or food colouring)

Sprinkle of glitter (optional)

Elmers magical Liquid (Amazon)

Recipe:

Add cup of water to the glue and stir in slowly

Add colour and glitter then slowly add in 1 tablespoon of magical liquid.

Knead for 5 minutes add accordingly, the slime may become sticky when kneading.

Once it was ready everyone had a turn playing with the slime.

What does it feel like?

Is it wet?

What can you make with it?

Some children decided to make worms. They were talking about how long or short theirs can be and how they wriggle in the garden.



Police visit

Special Visitors

At the beginning of October we invited the police into nursery.

They brought their police van which the children could explore. The police sounded the siren explaining what the sound was for.



Bristol Childcare Recipe

Following feedback in the parent questionnaire, we will share one of our favourite recipes in each issue of the newsletter.

This is a favourite on our Winter menu which we have now started.
Find the full menu at <https://www.bristolchildcare.co.uk/meals/menus/>

Pork Meatballs with Butterbeans

To serve a family of 4

Ingredients:

For the meatballs

500g minced pork
1 diced onion

For the red pesto

1 roasted red pepper
Olive oil – to give a smooth consistency
1 clove of garlic
Small bunch of basil

For the bean sauce

1 tin butter beans
1 onion
1 clove of garlic
300g passata
Red pesto – above
150 ml veg stock

Method:

Mix minced pork with onion and roll into golf sized balls. Brown in frying pan set aside.
Make red pesto by whizzing basil, olive oil, garlic, roasted red peppers and together.
Sauté onion and garlic in large pan. Add pesto and passata and water with veg stock.
Cook meatballs in sauce.

