



Newsletter - Spring 2023



New Year Wishes

Happy New Year to you all... we trust you all had a very happy Christmas and are feeling excited for the New Year. We would like to thank everyone for the cards and gifts which were very kindly sent in for the staff before Christmas. Your generosity was very much appreciated.

Newsletters will be published three times this year and will be sent out electronically to parents. Copies of all newsletters can also be found on our website.

New Monthly Diaries

At the end of January all Children will be issued with a new 2023 monthly diary.

This diary is very useful as it allows us to share information about your child's development between home and nursery.

Please remember to let us know when you have seen something new that your child has learnt so we can mark this off in their development files. Please remember



these documents can also be shared with any other setting your child attends.

Winter Weather Warning

The weather in January and February is usually very unpredictable - please remember to

check your emails before setting off each morning. We will always make the effort to open. Most of our staff live locally but we encourage parents to not make unnecessary journeys in extreme conditions. If you have a new email address, please let us know so we can update your contact details.



Bank Holiday Closures 2022

Sallywags will be closed on the following dates:

Friday 7th April – Good Friday

Monday 10th April - Easter Monday

Monday 1st May – Early May Day Holiday

Monday 8th May – Coronation of King Charles III

Monday 29th May – Spring Bank Holiday

Monday 28th August – Late Summer Holiday

Christmas closures 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th December and 1st Jan 2023.

(Please note that all Bank Holidays are charged for in full)

Parent contact details

To ensure we are able to contact all parents via email. Please can you ensure we have at least one current email address per child. We have had a few occasions recently where emails are bouncing back, and parents are missing important messages

3 / 4-Year-Old Government Funding

Funding has now been allocated for all current 3- year olds attending Sallywags. For any child who has their 3rd Birthday between 1st January and 31st March – application forms will be handed out in February. Please ensure you complete these forms in order to be eligible for funding after Easter. Any parent who thinks they may be eligible for 30 free hours, is advised to look at the

Childcare Choices website to register and gain an eligibility code. For more information, please see funding display in the main nursery entrance.

Chinese New Year – Wednesday 18th January

Chinese New Year is the Chinese festival that celebrates the beginning of a new



year on the traditional Chinese calendar 2023 marks the year of the rabbit. People born in a year of the Rabbit are called "Rabbits" and are believed to be vigilant, witty, quick-minded, and ingenious. Throughout the day children will be learning all about the iconic festival. They will be eating Chinese food, decorating and exchanging red envelopes and dancing with the Scallywags dragon.

RSPB Day – Friday 27th January

Today the children will be learning all about the amazing work that the RSPB do. During the day we will be taking part in the wild challenge 'feed the birds'. Giving birds a



little extra food is a simple and fun way to help, especially when natural sources are low. The children will be making cakes for the birds to hang in the nursery garden.

Keeping Children Safe day – Thursday 9th February

Today the children will be learning all about how to keep themselves safe. We will be using the NSPCC resource 'Talk PANTS'. Pantosaurus helps children understand that their body belongs to them, and they should tell someone they trust if anything makes them feel upset or

worried. Today we will be talking PANTS with the children:



P – Pants are private
A – Always remember your body belongs to you
N – No means no
T – Talk about secrets that upset you
S – Speak up someone can help you

Acts of kindness day – Tuesday 14th February

Today the children will be thinking all about the special people / animals in their lives. Please bring in photos for your child to share at circle time. All children will be taking a small gift home to share the love of being kind.



Pancake day races - Tuesday 21st February

Today we will be holding our annual pancake day races on the field- please can all children bring a named frying pan to use at the races.

International Polar Bear Day – Monday 27th February

International Polar Bear Day draws our attention to the conservation of the largest land carnivore in the world. Today the children will be learning all about Polar Bears. They will be looking at the globe to find the Arctic, researching where a Polar bear lives and how they look after themselves.

St David's Day - Wednesday

1st
March

Today the children will be learning all about the patron saint of Wales. They will be making daffodils, researching symbols of Wales and Saint David respectively and eating traditional Welsh rarebit.



World Book Day – Thursday

2nd March

Today we will be reading a wide range of nursery favourites to the children – with a focus on books written by Nathan Bryan, Dapa Adeala and Sarah Coyle. All children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character.



St Patricks
Day –
Friday 17th
March



Today the children will be learning all about the patron saint of Ireland. The children will be going on a scavenger hunt in the garden to see if they can find the lucky leprechauns. They will also be baking so tasty Shamrock biscuits.

Mother's week – 13th
March

This week the children will be making special gifts to take home for their mummy / special ladies in their lives.

Easter celebrations Wk. 3rd
April

During this week the children will be taking part in all things Easter.

We will be holding our annual Easter bonnet parade at 10am on (Chellaston site: 28th / Melbourne site: 29th March). All children are invited to bring a bonnet made at home for the parade. Mrs Dunicliff will be judging the procession and handing out prizes for the best creation.

National unicorn day –
Tuesday 11th April

Unicorns have been a popular mythical creature since Ancient Greek times when people believed they lived in exotic India. While they were once considered to be fierce, powerful animals, many now see them as a symbol of love, purity,



enchantment, and magic. Today the children will be reading the book 'How to grown a unicorn' by Rachel Morrisroe and Steven Lenton. They will be junk modelling their very own unicorn and enjoying sparkly pancakes.

St George's Day – Friday 21st
April

Today the children will be learning all about the patron saint of England. They will be thinking about castle and knights and will be creating their own shape castle.



World Penguin Day – Tuesday
25th April

World Penguin Day is annually celebrated on 25th April to celebrate penguins -



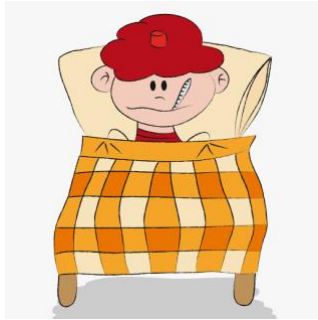
the unique, aquatic, flightless birds living in the southern hemisphere. Today the children will be learning about Antarctica, how penguin's survivor and will take part in a penguin dance.

International dance day – Tuesday 2nd June

On International Dance Day, we celebrate being footloose and free to move to the rhythm of the music (or even no music). Whether you like ballet or jazz, all types of dances can be learned, performed, and most of all, enjoyed by all. Today the children will be listening to lots of different types of music to see how it makes them feel. We will all be dancing our way through the day.

Dealing with sick children...

Please can we politely ask that all sick children are kept off nursery for the designated exclusion time. For sickness and diarrhoea it is 48 hours exclusion from the last case.



Melbourne Site

We welcome Chloe and Katie to the team and we hope they will be happy working at Scallywags.



Congratulations to Abbie Hollingworth who has successfully completed her level 2 in childcare. Congratulations to Kerry Emerton who has completed her Level 2 in suicide awareness and prevention.

Chellaston site

We welcome

We welcome Belquis and Abigail to our team and hope they will be very happy working at Scallywags. Congratulations to Chelsea Cole on successfully achieving her level 2 in childcare.

Reminder: School applications

Reminder for all Zebra / Pre-school room parents – the closing date for Derby school applications for September 2023 intake is the 15th January 2023. If you have not already made your application this needs to be done.

Naming items

Many children come into nursery with similar shoes, clothes and other belongings. To help staff return misplaced items to the correct person, please can we ask you all to name your child's belongings.

Nursery contact details

Melbourne site: tel 01332 862188

Email: Melbourne@scallywagsnursery.com

Chellaston site: tel 01332 705070

Email: Chellaston@scallywagsnursery.com

Accounts: please can all account queries be emailed to Vyna.

Vyna works 8am – 4pm every Wednesday and Thursday at our Melbourne site.

Email: bookkeeper@scallywagsnursery.com

Parent consultations



Staff are more than happy to set up zoom calls with parents to support with tips, advice, and updates on how your child is getting on at nursery. These chats are available for children that have returned to nursery and children that are still learning at home. If you would like to arrange a virtual catch up chat, please email the office and an invite will be sent out to you.