Welcome to all parents and carers of Seedlings children!

The first half of the Autumn term was busy welcoming all our families, new and old! We are so proud of how the children have settled into Nursery life and we are all really excited for the next half-term.



Seedlings staff : Michelle L, Michelle W, Harley & Fatou
Saplings Senior Nursery Education Workers: Danielle & Clare

Curriculum

We always begin the year learning about '**routines and rituals**' to help the new children settle and get everyone back into the familiar structure of the day. This ensures the children feel secure and confident in their new environment and ready to play and learn.

We have some new children starting in Seedlings this term so the focus has been settling them in as well welcoming our other babies back.

As the weather changes, we have been learning about the different seasons and how Summer changed into Autumn. The children have really enjoyed looking for different coloured leaves and collecting conkers and sycamore seeds, helping to develop their understanding of the world, as well as watching how our beautiful trees change throughout the year. We will be learning about Winter as the year ends and looking for signs such as darker and colder days, wearing hats and scarves and watching the leaves fall from all the trees. We will help the children to learn about the seasons through a range of varied sensory experiences.





We love to sing and learn nursery rhymes at nursery and to encourage the children to join in with the actions too. We will send these rhymes home so that you can include the whole family in singing and enjoying them too.

The children will also be having regular music and movement sessions which they love.

This half-term our focus we will be **learning to share resources with our peers and taking turns.** We will also be acknowledging children feel at different times of the day, **labelling their emotions** and suggesting how they may be feeling eg. "I think you may be feeling sad right now." We will the offer the children ideas to support them with that feeling eg. "would you like a hug/ to read a story/ to come outside with me?"





We will also be helping the babies and children to **develop their independence**. This could be with their eating skills such as feeding themselves using their fingers or a spoon, holding a cup or asking for more of something.

We will also be learning about all the exciting festivals that take place at this time of year, such as **Diwali, Bonfire Night, Chanukah** and **Christmas.** We will do this through sensory exploration in fun and engaging ways.









General information





Changing Clothes

We love messy play! Please provide a change of clothes for your child in case they become messy/ wet whilst playing. We will always let you know if they have run out of spare clothes and need them replacing. If your child has messy clothes that can be the sign of a good, busy day.Please also check the weather each day and provide your child with suitable clothing… *there is no bad weather just inappropriate clothing*! We have all-in-one wetsuits for very rainy days so the children can still enjoy exploring the muddy puddles.

We love to go outside whatever the weather so all children will need a coat to wear, with a hood please. If you have wellies that don't fit your children anymore, please do bring them in. We keep them with our spare wellies as they are sure to fit someone! We don't use umbrellas at Nursery.



Can you also please provide your child with slippers for inside nursery as the weather gets colder? Please ensure these have non-slip pads on the sole so that your child does not slip when playing.

Contact Numbers

Please ensure we have your updated contact details, such as your address, phone numbers and details for more than 2 emergency contacts. It is important for us to be able to contact you in an emergency. The emergency contacts don't have to be someone living nearby, just someone who can help us reach you if needed.

Allergy Advice



We have children in school who have severe allergies. We ask parents to help us keep all the children safe by not allowing their child to bring food into school. For birthdays, children can bring in some fruit to share with the class or crackers, but please not food item containing nuts. We also have many children who are dairy free and/ or vegan. We greatly appreciate your support with this.

Fruit time

We would like to continue offering the children fresh fruit and vegetables each day at snack time. If you would like to and you are able, you can donate fresh fruit and vegetables. Perhaps you could pick up an extra bag of fruit that could be shared with the children when you go shopping? Please note that this is entirely optional and we would only want you to donate if you are able.



Parent workshops

We will be running parent workshops and meetings throughout the term. Please see attached information with all dates and what's on offer.
These will include:

- Toileting workshop - with Clinical Psychologist from CAMHS
- Oral Health workshop - with local Community Dental Nurse
- Parent meetings - with your child's Key Person for their 6 week settling in meeting and 2 year review.

Attendance and punctuality

We know that good habits from an early age have a very positive impact on achievement. Regular attendance helps children to make friends and learn social skills, enjoy their learning, feel settled and happy and get ready for school. If your child is absent from school we ask that you please call in and let us know why they are absent and when they will be returning on 0207 281 2745.

Even when you're very small, good attendance makes a big difference!



Important dates for your diary!

date	time	activity
Wednesday 11th November	9.30-10.30am	**Oral Health workshop for Parents/ Carers** Please come and hear how to support your child with their oral health.
Thursday 12th November	All day	**School photographer** School photo of your child (with siblings if requested).
Friday 13th November	All day	**Children in Need Day** Your child can wear anything spotty and make donations to Children in Need Charity.
Monday 16th November	All day	**Odd Socks Day** Children can wear odd socks to celebrate diversity and inclusivity.
	3.45-5.45pm	**Staff Development Session** **SCHOOL CLOSES AT 3.45pm**
Wednesday 9th December	9-10am	**Toileting workshop**
Thursday 10th December	All day Time tbc	**Winter Jumper Day & International Food Evening** All children can wear their festive jumpers to raise money for Save The Children Charity. We welcome all food donations to this faintly event after school.
Friday 18th December		**Last day of term for all children** **School begins again Tuesday 5th January 2027.**

Parents/ carers pick-up

Please ensure you are **on time** for picking up your child as children can become distressed when they see other parents/carers coming in but not their own. Please also do NOT ring the door buzzer before **11.55am** as that can disrupt the children's story time. Many thanks for your understanding with this.

Buggies and Bikes





As the weather gets colder, more people begin to use buggies to bring their children into nursery. Please can you **FOLD YOUR BUGGGY** to make room for all the buggies and to ensure the safety of children when they are arriving and leaving nursery? Buggies and bikes may be left at your own risk and we cannot be responsible for them.

ITIPS

We are very proud to report that for the past two years we have been focusing on becoming an ITIPS (Islington Trauma Informed Practice School). We have developed a brilliant **Positive Behaviour Policy** which is on our website. There are many resources and tips in this policy which you may find useful for home too.

https://files.schudio.com/margaret-mcmillan-nursery-school/files/Policies/positive_behaviour_policy_.pdf



Book bags

We have lovely Margaret McMillan Nursery School book bags for your child to bring in each day. This enables the children to regularly choose a book to take home and read. Please bring in the book bag **daily** as children will not be able to take a book home without the bag (to keep it safe). It's also useful for the children to put their lovely work inside!

FAMLY

Please check the **FAMLY** app regularly to find out what your child has eaten at nursery that day, how long they have slept for and any relevant nappy information. We also hope you like the lovely observations that staff put on FAMLY to show what your child has been up to. You can also add photos from home if you would like, just click on the 'journey' section in the app.

Many thanks for your continued support.

We look forward to a wonderful, exciting term ahead!