



Chrysalis Newsletter

Spring Term 2025

Welcome to the Spring Term 2025
at Chrysalis!



Happy New Year to all and a very warm welcome to parents and children who are new to us this term.

We hope you all had a fabulous festive season and are returning refreshed for another action-packed term at Chrysalis.

Firstly, I'd like to thank everyone, on behalf of myself, Elaine, Julia, Carol & Tk for the thoughtful gifts and cards we received from you at Christmas. You are very kind!

It's always such an exciting time in nursery for the children, packed with Christmas crafts and activities. Thank you to everyone who came to watch the children sing. We thought they did marvellously!

Our project for the Spring Term is 'At the.....!'



'At theAirport!' 'At theBeach!' 'At theSwing park!'

The options for this are endless, and allow the children to lead their own project and the topics we learn about over the weeks ahead. Self-directed play lets them experience independence from a young age, all the while in a safe, prepared environment. It stimulates imagination and children can't help but be creative during self-directed play. By giving them these opportunities, we are allowing them to flex their creative muscles.

The link to our website below gives you some further information about our project and some of the types of activities we might cover this term.

[Link: Spring Term Project](#)

This term we'll also be including activities based on some seasonal festivals such as

Chinese New Year, which for 2025 is **The Year of the Snake!**



Chinese New Year is the biggest holiday celebrated among Chinese people. It is often referred to as the spring festival because it signals the beginning of spring. It is a time when families and friends get together to say goodbye to the old and welcome the new.

The children love trying typical Chinese foods such as noodles in the Chrysalis 'Chinese restaurant'.

Using chopsticks is a great way of improving hand-eye co-ordination and they even make fantastic tools for mark making.

We can include dancing and music as the children practice their dragon dancing!



We will of course be celebrating our lovely mummies on **Mother's Day**.



Thinking about being loved, and loving, helps children remember they are kept in mind, they have people who care about them, and to learn ways to show their own love. For many children, this will include their Mummy.

We support children to recognise love and kindness in others and in themselves all the time. However, we bear in mind that there are so many different versions of family and so many family stories.

A child may live with their single Dad or have two Daddies. There may be a child who is living with their foster family. Or a child's Mummy may have died, or perhaps their Mummy's Mum - their Granny - has passed away and this is a painful time for the whole family.

For all these reasons, and more, we can recognise that Mother's Day doesn't provide for and support the learning and development of every child, and that we can learn together about giving and receiving love and kindness and being grateful in so many other meaningful ways, every day.



Of course, later in the term there will be lots of **Easter** crafts, and egg and spoon racing to celebrate this important springtime festival.



Easter egg hunts are always extremely popular with the children!



We will also be helping our children to recognise the changing of the seasons and how this affects our local plants and animals, as Winter turns to **Spring**.



Some important reminders...

• Applying for school places 2025:

Please be reminded that parents with children due to start school for the first time in September 2025 will need to apply for their child's school place by **15 January 2025**. Parents must apply by this deadline for the best chance of getting their child a place at their preferred school.

• Paediatric 1st Aid training has advised us that popcorn can be a choking hazard and is therefore not suitable for our age group of children. Please **DO NOT** include popcorn in your child's lunch box.



We must also remind you that if you include grapes in your child's lunchbox these should be quartered to avoid the risk of choking.



• Please can I also remind you that we are a **NO NUTS** nursery to avoid transfer of allergens in susceptible children and staff. Please **DO NOT** include nuts or nut-based products like peanut butter or Nutella in your child's lunch box.



• Contact details:

Please can I ask parents to be certain to update us with any changes to contact information for yourself or your emergency contacts. It's really important that we have the correct information should we need to contact you urgently in the event of an emergency.

• Early Years Funding:

Working families who have children who are **newly funded** in the Spring Term should hopefully by now have given us their HMRC code to allow us to claim funding for your child. Please be reminded that codes with a start date **after 31st December 2024** will NOT BE VALID until the Summer Term 2025.

All families with codes need to renew their eligibility online with HMRC every 3 months, and the next renewal date should be given to us in nursery each time confirming that your funding is still valid. The code itself doesn't change, and remains the same throughout your child's attendance with us.

If you are planning on **sharing funding with another provider** eg childminder or different nursery, we need to know how many hours each week and the number of weeks you will be using funding elsewhere to ensure that there is no overclaim which can result in an unexpected and often expensive, full cost invoice being given to you later in the term.

Please make sure that you have confirmed this information with us at the very start of term if you haven't already done so.

• **The term and holiday dates** for this academic year and the next are available on our website to assist with your forward planning.

[Link: Childrens House Hours, Fees & Holidays](#)

• Car Parking

Please remember there is a **NO PARKING** regulation in Hayeswood School car park. Parents should not enter the school car park in their vehicle at any time, regardless of weather conditions. Please ensure that everyone who drops off or collects your child is aware of this safety rule.



We have been advised by Hayeswood School that they are planning to renovate and improve the school staff car park and access to the school and nursery. We don't have any dates or time scale for this at the moment but will send out information via email once the school give us any details.

• If you need to contact us at Chrysalis out of hours, for instance to inform us that your child will be absent/ has taken any medication before their attendance with us etc please email

chrysalis@montessorinurseries.co.uk

All staff have access to this mail, so the information will be seen when I'm not personally on site.

As always, should you wish to contact me separately you can do so at:

perdy@montessorinurseries.co.uk

Don't forget you can download forms for coming to nursery with an existing injury or new medication from our website to either print off and bring in with your child, or to email to us before you arrive.

[Link: Forms on website](#)

• Label, label, label!

Please label ALL items that come into nursery - our lost property box always mysteriously fills up over the term, even though we do our best to reunite items with their owners. There is really no need for anything other than suitable clothing for the weather conditions at the time to be brought into nursery. We cannot take responsibility for losses, or damage to, precious toys etc brought from home.

And finally...

I have to say a huge thank you to my amazing team of staff. Their imaginations seem limitless, and our children are really lucky to benefit from their hard work creating such a rich and varied curriculum. I really wouldn't manage without their support and hard work - thank you Elaine, Julia, Tk and Carol.

We are all looking forward to the Spring Term ahead and have planned some exciting activities for our children.

See everyone soon, and a very happy 2025 to one and all!

Kind regards

Perdy

