

Chagford Montessori Nursery School

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Newsletter: Summer Term 2018

I will start by telling you the story of a very big box...once upon a time it was destined for the recycling centre, as apparently its usefulness had come to an end, however, then it came to Chagford Montessori and was given a new lease of life! It's great when so much fun can be had with some cardboard and paint. Thank you to Elise for her amazing skills at transforming it into a fire engine...it is lovely to hear so many happy news! This, along with the visit from Lisa the local PC completed our **'People who help us'** topic. Thank you to Leigh for organising it.

by face painting, either at home or here if they wish! A short performance will be followed by some refreshments, storytelling with puppets and musical activities led by Rachael Miller <http://www.rachel-miller.co.uk/earlyyears> until approx. 3:30pm.

Reflecting on this academic year, it is satisfying that the Montessori approach continues to be strongly embedded in the setting, with new staff enthusiastically learning about the Montessori method by embarking on Montessori training. This enables us to see things with fresh eyes and make improvements where possible. One such



We are now focusing on **'Transitions'** as the older children prepare to start primary school. We have made a book for the children to look at which features various schools that children will move onto. Photos of the staff, classrooms and outside areas facilitate discussion about the forthcoming changes in these children's lives.

We are busily writing **transition reports** to have ready to give to you at the beginning of July. Please read, add comments and sign the document and then return it to us, so we can copy and forward it to your child's new school in good time.

Throughout Spring we looked at lifecycles, including growing seeds. We are now planting out the seedlings in our growing bed. As Summer advances we are embracing it with seasonal poetry, dance and song. We look forward to sharing this with you on **Thursday 12th July at 2pm**, when everyone is invited into Montessori to join our **Summer Celebration**. Children are encouraged to dress up as either a farmer or a flower – it's their choice and can be embellished

insight has been the instigation of the **'work in progress'** cards.



Each child has one in their tray, which they can put by an activity they have chosen, when they need to leave it for a little while, for instance if they need to use the loo or have a snack. It's amazing to see such young children taking responsibility for themselves in this way. Well done Hen for making the cards!

Please continue reading below for more info. As always, thank you for your support, Ruth and the staff team ☀

Staff news

Louise will be leaving at the end of this term as she wants to spend more time with her family and ever increasing flock of sheep! We wish her well in her new venture. Louise's key children will be allocated a new key teacher in September from the existing members of staff who all know them really well. Henrietta Gavillet has been providing cover this term and we look forward to her continuing her work with us in the Autumn.

Montessori for parents

I like reading Simone Davies blog <http://www.themontessorinotebook.com> when I need some Montessori inspiration. She recently recommended this book 'At Home with Montessori' which can be purchased from <https://www.for-smallhands.com/browse-our-collections/ages-3-to-4-years/at-home-with-montessori> a website which looks like it has other good Montessori style products too.

Picnic fun!

Sharing picnic lunches when the weather permits are lovely. It is helpful if you can **provide a drink for your child** as it avoids unnecessary spills. Thank you.



30 hour funding

You can find out more and apply at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk. If you're already using 30 hours, you need to confirm that your details are up to date every 3 months, through your childcare account.

Privacy Policy

The new GDPR regulations have now come into effect and we have added a privacy policy to the parent's page of our website www.chagfordmontessori.co.uk

Hello sunshine

Please continue to **apply sun cream before drop off** and supply a named hat. Thank you.

No picking please

We discourage children from picking the flowers or plants in our garden. The reasons we explain to children include protecting children's health: they should not touch or pick plants that may be hazardous. Also, because plants provide a habitat for our garden insects and are nice for everyone to enjoy. This said, we make an exception for the wild strawberries which we collect, wash and share for snack. Also other edibles that we have grown in our planting patch.

Autumn Term Sessions

I will be putting session request forms in your child's tray soon. When you complete these, please consider that we are currently facing a very quiet time at Montessori, as we are losing over half of the children on role this Summer. If you want us to be here in years to come for your youngest children, we really do need you to **sign up for as many sessions a possible** now to help see us through. Thank you.

Term Dates 2018 - 2019

Summer Term ends on

Thursday 19th July

Autumn Term

Tuesday 4th Sept – Thursday 18th Oct
2 WEEK HALF TERM

Monday 5th Nov – Thursday 20th Dec

Spring Term

Tuesday 8th Jan – Thursday 14th Feb
1 WEEK HALF TERM

Monday 25th Feb – Thursday 4th April

Summer Term

Tuesday 23rd April – Thursday 23rd May
1 WEEK HALF TERM

Monday 3rd June – Thursday 18th July