



# Newsletter

December 2023

Dear parents/carers

We hope you are all well and have begun to enjoy the festive period. We are super excited about the winter and have lots of exciting things to look forward to. Please see the list of activity ideas below for our December challenges.

## December challenges:

- Visit a winter wonderland or a Christmas market.
- Practise your present wrapping skills.
- Bake some festive goodies!
- Watch a Christmas movie with your family.

Please upload all your challenges to Tapestry for us to see as we would love to show them to the other children during circle times.

We would like to inform you that the nurseries last open day for children attending all through the year will be Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December and the nursery opens again from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January. For term time children their last day is Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and they can return from Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Steph will be going on maternity leave from Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December and Nicole will be taking over whilst she is away. Abigail, Julie and Carly, the room leaders across the setting, will also be available for you to talk to for times where Nicole is not available.

Children that will be going to school in September 2024 have until the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 to process your school applications. Please see the Havering website on how to apply.

Each year, the director of the company awards a member of our team with our 'Employee of the year' title, and we are seeking your contribution in voting for this! Please either email or text us who you think should win the award with your reasons why. The more detailed your reason is, the better! Votes will be shared with the team so that they receive your positive feedback.

It has come to our attention that lots of parents are placing their children in car seats with their coats/snow suits on. This is quite unsafe because the bulky clothing can compress under the car seat strap. What this does is leave excess space between the child's body and the car seat strap. This can increase the chances of a child having an injury if you were to have an accident.

As we are getting busier, we would like parents to be aware that the care diaries will not necessarily be updated throughout the child's session. If your child leaves at 1pm then the care diary will be done by this time and if your child attends all day, then their care diary will be complete by our closing time. We want as much of our time to be focused on spending time with the children and engaging with them and we hope that you appreciate this.

We are delighted to announce that the winner of the pumpkin competition for children was Deren! We loved the creativity and how child led it was. We also voted for Abigail for the winner of the staff pumpkins for her efforts to make her pumpkin look like Vincent Van Gogh's Starry Night painting.

All rooms will be focusing on the festive period and winter themed activities. There are lots of events leading up to Christmas so keep an eye out for what will be happening!

## Please note:

- Please put your child's name in all their items of clothing. Children must have hats, coats, scarves and gloves throughout the winter months.
- Your fees are due within the first five working days of each month (unless you have a separate agreement with us). Please ensure that your fees are paid on time.
- Please ensure you are collecting at the correct session times as this can cause delays with other children coming in and staff going home. Late collection fee is £2 per minute as stated in your contracts.
- Please contact the nursery in the morning if your child has an illness or is on medication so that we can advise you what to do as there are exclusions for certain situations/illnesses.

Look at all the fun we've been having!



Check us out on our social media platforms!



Instagram – risingstarsromford



Facebook – Rising Stars Romford



*Merry Christmas*

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy new year!

**Upcoming events**

- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> – Beginning of Christmas party
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dress like an elf day
- W/C 4<sup>th</sup> – Christmas jumper week
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> – Writing letters to Santa
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> – Snowman making competition
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Hanukkah
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - Christmas cookie competition