



TOTS AND SCHOLARS NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2023

Dear TAS parents and carers,

After a very busy month with lots of exciting activities, we welcome March. This month will be filled with carefully planned activities based on the children's interest, and next steps, but we will also be celebrating some important events. Please read the full newsletter for more details.



EVENTS FOR THE MONTH

World Book Day

On **Thursday 2nd March** will be **World Book Day**. What better way to celebrate the wonderful world of books and the stories that we explore within them! As well as diving into our favourite books on this day, we would like the children to dress up as their favourite book character. Not only is reading enjoyable, but it also allows children to relax, as well as broaden their knowledge of words and imagination!



Mother's Day Event

'A mother's hug, last long after she lets go'. We are delighted to welcome all of our mummies or grandmas to our annual **Mother's Day Event!** Today is a day to show our gratitude and love for our Mother's for everything they do for us. The children will have a few surprises for the mummies to make the day as special as possible. Invitations will follow closer to the event. Please see the following dates for the events:

Shenley: Caterpillar Room - 13th March - 10am-11am
Butterfly Room - 14th March - 10am-11am
Elstree: Butterfly Room - 15th March - 4pm-5pm
Caterpillar Room - 16th March - 4pm-5pm



Red Nose Day - Comic Relief

We have reached that time of year once again and on **17th March** we will be joining all of those around the country to raise funds for **Comic Relief on Red Nose Day**. This charity does wonderful work helping those that need it the most from those struggling in poverty, drought in East Africa, to the recent tragic earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. The children and staff will be holding a bake sale to support this charity. The children may dress in red to mark the day!

Ramadan

As we approach the end of March, we will be celebrating **Ramadan** at the settings. On **22nd March** the children will take part in date tasting, decorating prayer mats and lanterns, as well as learning all about this special time of year.

Dates for your calendar

- **2nd March** - World Book Day
- **13th March** - Mother's Day Event - Shenley - **Caterpillar Room**
- **14th March** - Mother's Day Event - Shenley - **Butterfly Room**
- **15th March** - Mother's Day Event - Elstree - **Butterfly Room**
- **16th March** - Mother's Day Event - Elstree - **Caterpillar Room**
- **17th March** - Red Nose Day - Comic Relief
- **22nd March** - Ramadan

Safeguarding at TAS

One of the ways in which we make sure your child is safe is by implementing our responsibility to take all necessary steps to ensure the safety and welfare of all the children in our care in line with the procedures laid out by our local Safeguarding Partnership ("LSP"). **TAS Designated Safeguarding Lead is Vanda and secondary is Demi.** During the day you can reach them on the nursery landline and out of hours in case of an emergency you can reach Vanda on 07983154372 and Demi on 07501218646. **In an emergency, contact the Police Child Abuse Investigation Team or dial 999.** Police Child Abuse Investigation Team 020 8733 5070.

Reminders for parents

- **Please ensure you are sending sufficient nappies and wipes for your child.**
- Can we kindly remind you that if a child gets sick during nursery hours please make arrangements to collect them as soon as possible.
- Please make sure your child has **spare labelled clothes** at all times.
- **Labelling** - All children's spare clothing and school uniform **MUST** be labelled, to avoid confusion in the cloakroom.
- **Please like and follow our new Facebook Page!** You can find us by searching **@totsandscholarsnursery**.
- **Show and Tell Days are returning!** Every **Wednesday** your child can bring a toy from home. Please ensure toys are labelled as children will be encouraged to take turns and share them.

EARLY YEARS PUPIL PREMIUM (EYPP)

What is Pupil Premium?

The Early Years Pupil Premium is extra funding paid to Early Years Providers to improve outcomes for eligible children.

Childcare providers (Tots and Scholars) can claim an additional £142.61 (Spring term 2023) per term to spend on enriching your child's education.

Who can apply for the Early Years Pupil Premium?

You can apply for Early Years Pupil Premium if your child is aged 3 or 4 and you get 15 hours free childcare.

You must also be in receipt of at least one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190.
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year after tax not including any benefits you get.

You may also get Early Years Pupil Premium if your child is currently being looked after by a local authority in England or Wales or if your child has left care in England of Wales through adoption, special guardianship order or a child arrangements order.

Who should parents contact for further information?

At TAS our Pupil Premium Champion is Ms Vanda Florin (Inclusion Lead).

Ms Vanda gets to know each of our Pupil Premium Families and works alongside them during their time at TAS to ensure that the funding is used as effectively as possible.

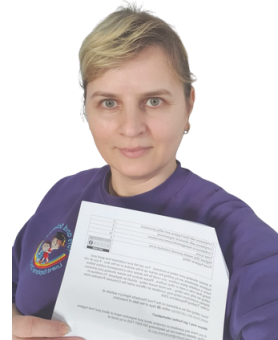
For queries relating directly to the application process for Early Years Pupil Premium and Early Years Pupil Premium Funding please contact Ms Vanda via email at totsandscholars@gmail.com

PROCEDURES

POLICIES

5* Food & Hygiene - Elstree

After having an inspection from the Borough on 31st January, we are very proud to announce that TAS - Elstree has once again received a 5 star rating for Food Hygiene. We'd like to thank our Nursery Chef Ms Cristina for all of her hard work! We are proud to have maintained 5* rating across both of our settings!



ACTIVITIES FOR HOME

Red Nose Day - Comic Relief Activities

As you already know, it will be red nose day on the 17th March. Comic Relief have teamed up with Bluey the dog to help raise awareness of the charity and the amazing work they are doing to support people and causes that need lots of help. Why not explore some of the wonderful activities at home with your family and Bluey. You could try the 'Keepy Uppy Challenge' or why not take part in a Bluey sponsored walk! Please see the link below for further information:

<https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/schools/early-years>

Ramadan

With Ramadan approaching, why not try to bake a sweet treat to gift to a family or friend celebrating! Sugar cookies which are also known as Kahk are a usually baked and have a filling consisting usually of pistachio, walnuts or dates, or you could make plain biscuits! They are decorated on the top and sprinkled with icing sugar to complete the final touches!

Thank you and have a wonderful month ahead!