

## Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year!

As a staff team we are already into the full swing of the new year and have been making plans of where we would like to see Poppins in the next year, and the improvements we would like to make for 2023. This includes delivery of our amazing new wooden climbing area and slide which will be replacing the blue slide. This will be delivered on 17<sup>th</sup> January! We are also looking to extend the opportunities we have for the lodge children by building a covered outdoor classroom! This will give the preschool children free flow indoor and outdoor opportunities, as well as more space. We also have plans for the outdoor sandpit to refurbish this space and make it more usable all year round by making a pergola over the top. We will also be enquiring about a summer trip soon, and planning the allotment for Spring so lots to look forward to!

## Staff News



Gemma had her baby!! New Years Day saw the arrival of beautiful Dotty Lila Rose, a healthy and happy baby girl. Both Gemma and Dotty are doing well and we cannot wait to meet her for baby cuddles!



Some of you may have seen my Tapestry post welcoming Marion to the team. Marion has joined us all the way from Australia and is a qualified and experienced Early Years Practitioner. Sadly however Marion has not had the best start to her UK life and spent Christmas in hospital with a dislodged fracture in three parts to her ankle. We are in contact with Marion every day and wish her a speedy recovery.



We say farewell to Sian. Sian has decided to leave Poppins to work with her fiancé, I am sure you will join me in wishing Sian all the best with her future career. Christine will be in touch with Sian's key families as we monitor relationships and attachments to let you know who your key person will be and send home a factsheet for you.

## Parent Review Meetings

Our parent review meetings are a priority for us here at Poppins, and we thank you for giving your time for these. They are a fantastic way of your key person building a relationship with you, as well as sharing all the wonderful things your child is learning at home and Nursery. Please do try to book an appointment with your key person on one of these days. Here are our future dates for your diary.

• **The Hatchlings** –

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 & Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023

• **The Nestlings** –

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 & Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### Future Stay and Play Dates

Once a month we open our doors for a stay and play, which is a wonderful opportunity to come and have a play with your child in Nursery. This helps children feel secure in their nursery environment, helps form attachments and allows parents to see what happens behind that black front door!

Here are our future dates, we would love for you to join us!

All sessions

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January** – Join us for our Forest School Enrichment – please dress accordingly for the weather.

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February** – Join us for our Mindfulness Enrichment

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March** - Join us for our Cooking Enrichment

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April** - Join us for our Physical Enrichment

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May** - Join us for our Cultural Enrichment

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June** - Join us for our Forest School Enrichment

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July** - Join us for our Cooking Enrichment

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August** - Join us for our Mindfulness Enrichment

### Tapestry

Just a polite reminder to please check Tapestry regularly for updates. We try to be quite eco-conscious of how much paper we are printing which is why we use Tapestry as a communication method to share letters, important dates and newsletters.

Also we love to hear from parents on Tapestry, to see photos of things you do at home so please do remember to share and make comments. This is really important as it tells us what your child is interested at home, which we use as a starting point for their learning at Poppins.

Thank you for your support.



Towards the end of 2022 all staff completed a full day training on a Saturday to learn over 150 signs which we use every day with the children. We decided to invest in this training as Communication and Language is the heart of our curriculum at Poppins. Research suggests if you start to your baby from birth they will start to sign back from 6 months old! This however isn't just for babies. Signing with your toddler can ease frustrations centred around communication and help prevent occasions of tantrums and biting. If you are interested in where you can access these classes please visit <https://www.tinytalk.co.uk/mollipep>.

We are very proud to say we are now a fully accredited setting and proud ambassadors of Tiny Talk. If you would like more information, please look out for our blog coming soon to our website!

## Our baby wearing journey has started!



Yes it's true! After extensive research we have invested in a hip friendly carrier endorsed by International Hip Dysplasia Institute called Integra (formally Connecta). You can read more about the carrier here <https://integrababy.co.uk/>

The purpose of using the carrier in the Nursery is we believe attachments and building positive relationships should truly be nurtured, even more so following the Covid pandemic! You can read more by visiting our website and reading our baby wearing blog <https://www.poppinsdaynursery.com/nurseryblog/2022/12/14/baby-wearing-what-is-it>

## Staff Continuous Professional Development

As a Manager I believe the biggest asset to any setting is the staff! Without these girls doing their absolute best every day the setting wouldn't be Poppins! Just one way we value their knowledge and hard work is by investing in them as early years professionals, providing them with the opportunities to keep them motivated, enthusiastic and keen to do their best every day for the children. We talk and support one another all the time and we try to focus our monthly staff meetings on future developments and training opportunities. For our December meeting we focused on safeguarding to ensure children are safe and we are keeping our knowledge up-to-date, linking safeguarding themes to Early Years. For our next staff meeting Zoé will be completing three online webinars on outdoor play and she will be delivering this training to the rest of the staff team.

We also have the following staff training booked for the individual team;

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January – Zoé will be refreshing her safeguarding training. Sam and Liv will also be completing some training about Domestic Abuse and how to support victims.

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January – Sam will be completing a refresher course to remain as the Designated Safeguarding Lead for the setting.

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January – Becky Lammas, Becky McCarthy, Elisha and Marion will all be completing their Tiny Talk training.

By the end of January Becky Lammas, Becky McCarthy and Sharon will be completing a course "supporting 0-2's in early years"

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Caitlin, Sharon and Cara will all be completing a safeguarding refresher course.

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Christine will be completing a Baby Room Leader course

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Georgia will be completing her DSL safeguarding course

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Christine will be refreshing her knowledge supporting children with Special Needs as she steps in as SENCO to cover Gemma whilst she is on Maternity Leave.