



# Group Newsletter – Winter 2018

We would like to wish our children, parents/carers and team members a very happy and healthy New Year. We hope you all have a lovely time with your families over the Christmas break. A special visitor called at our nurseries to say hello to the children during their Christmas parties!



## Team Christmas Party

We all really enjoyed our Christmas Party which over 150 team members attended at The Red Hall Hotel in Bury. Our annual group wide party is an opportunity for our fabulous hardworking team to let their hair down. They all deserve to celebrate another year of being devoted to the children in our care.

Everyone had great fun in the photo booth and danced the night away on the dancefloor. Thanks to our Central Support team for organising such a great night, and to Team MB for making it brilliant!





## Christmas Song Competition

This year we've had a Christmas song competition between our five Pre-schools and we've been so proud of them - creating and performing their own Christmas songs!

The songs were all brilliant and watching the children having such fun singing them was wonderful. Hopefully you saw the videos on our Facebook page, if not have a look! It's been brilliant that so many of you have 'liked' and commented on them. Maybe we'll make it an annual event!



Congratulations to Dumers Lane Pre-school for their winning song. They received a magical recordable golden postbox and all five of the Pre-school teams received a little something to say thanks!

## Christmas Appeal

Huge thanks to all those who supported our Christmas toy appeal for the Wood Street Mission in Manchester. Christmas is a time of joy, gifts, and precious time with family. However it can be a difficult time for those families struggling to make ends meet. Wood Street Mission has provided toys for children across Manchester and Salford at Christmas since the charity began in 1869.

We were overwhelmed with the number of gifts that were donated! Special mention should go to one of our ex-Tottington parents who donated bags of toys, and to a parent at our Dumers Lane nursery, whose work colleagues adopted our cause in place of their secret Santa and donated lots of additional gifts to our collection – we're very grateful!



Wood Street were thrilled with the donations, which will be put to good use providing presents to children who would be otherwise waking up on Christmas morning with nothing.



## Thank you

Our team would like to say a huge thank you to all of our parents/carers and children for the really generous presents that have been brought in for us all at Christmas time. Other than those intended specifically for individual team members, the presents were shared out equally among all of the team, including our housekeepers, cooks and maintenance team, we are really grateful for all of your generosity and kindness.





### Pyjama Day for Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Children in Need event, dressing in pyjamas. All of the children looked great and our team made a big effort as well. Pudsey Bear visited the children at all five nurseries, helping to raise over £720, our highest amount for this event.



### NMT Nursery Awards – Nursery Operations Director / Regional Director Award

We were delighted that our HR Manager, Sharon Rumens, and our Senior Manager, Stacey Kenyon, were shortlisted for an NMT national award. Although we didn't win this time we are so proud of them both, they are the best operations team any nursery group could wish for!





## Parents' evening

Each nursery held a Parents' Evening in November. The evening was really well attended and hopefully you enjoyed the opportunity to speak to your child's key person, discuss their development and have a look at their learning journeys. Hopefully the parents of our toddler children also used the evening to look around our Pre-school units and meet other members of the team.

We wanted to say a big thank you to all of our team for their hard work in making the night a big success, especially after a busy day at work. Thank you also to all of you who took time to complete a questionnaire. The feedback you gave us was overwhelmingly positive which is always nice to read – we make sure that all of our team have opportunity to read the completed questionnaires as it's lovely to receive praise!

The questionnaires also gave you a chance to ask a question or raise a point which you may not have done previously. Our management team have been through all of the forms and should now have responded and acted on any suggestions made in the questionnaire responses, unless you did not add your name to the form. However, please never wait for parents evenings to raise any issues or niggles you might have, we're always keen to listen to any comments or suggestions our parents may have and it's much better to speak to us rather than dwell on a small issue which can turn into a worry.

## New website - [www.mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk](http://www.mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk)

Our new website has been launched. We think it looks great and it is certainly a lot easier to navigate when using a smart phone or tablet. The bottom of each page shows the current page of our nursery Facebook page which is updated regularly with photographs, reminders and other useful information. We will be continuing to update the website with more functionality for parents in the next few months!



Mulberry Bush Nursery  
Outstanding Childcare

EMAIL US AT:

[info@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk](mailto:info@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk)



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# Welcome to Mulberry Bush Nursery Group

We are a group of five family run and owned children's nurseries based in Bury, Lancashire. Founded in 1990, we are the longest established nursery group in the North West.

[Read More](#)



## Vacancies

All of the nurseries are currently very full, with only very limited vacancies at a couple of them. If you are expecting a baby and would like a place for them at nursery, could we suggest that you speak to the nursery managers as soon as possible, and ideally complete and return an enrolment form to give you the best chance of securing a place at the time of year that you require.

## New position - Head Chef

We continue to invest in our amazing team and are always looking to create new positions to recognise the work someone is doing, over and above their current role. It allows us to help make our team feel appreciated and valued and creates opportunities to allow career progression within the Mulberry Bush Team. A recent example of this is our new Senior Chef position.

Congratulations to Kirsten Byatt, who has been promoted to become our first Senior Chef. Kirsten has worked for Mulberry Bush for four years and has cooked for our Whitefield, Walshaw and Walmersley nurseries. She has helped to review our menu with our Senior Manager, Stacey Kenyon, as it changes between Summer and Winter. Kirsten will now manage our small team of Nursery Chefs. Kirsten is based at our largest nursery, Dumers Lane, working alongside the Dumers' Lane chef, Carla. Kirsten will also provide cover at the other nurseries when their chefs are on holiday or unwell.

## Winter weather

The children love it when it snows and it gives our team lots of ideas for exciting activities with the children but it also comes with its own challenges. We will do our very best to clear pavements, paths and car parks to help you get into the nursery buildings. We have snow shovels and bags of grit salt at the ready!

A large number of our team live within walking distance of nursery and we have never opened late or been forced to close because of the weather, so unless there is an unprecedented snowfall, we will be open! If you are at all concerned, keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.





Please make sure your child has a warm coat, hat, scarf and gloves at nursery. The children love spending time outside but we want them wrapped up nice and warm in this colder weather. It would also be great if these items could be labelled with your child's name so they don't get mixed up. We do have spare pairs of wellies but feel free to bring in your child's from home (again, with their name inside).

### Refurbishments

We completed a number of large projects in 2018 and have more projects scheduled for 2019. Some will be planned into the Easter break and other bank holiday weekends as some of these jobs can only be done when the nursery is closed. With five nurseries and seven buildings there's always something to be done! Other smaller repairs and maintenance projects are completed as soon as possible. Any safety issues are always prioritised and dealt with first by our own full time maintenance team of Oli and Stephen. If you have any suggestions about improvements to your nursery please speak to a member of the team.

### Primary school applications

Just a reminder for the parents of our Pre-school children, the closing date for primary school applications is shortly after the Christmas break. Local primaries have been holding their open days/evening over the last few weeks, and most of them will show you round separately if you have missed the open days if you contact them. Whilst we know our Mulberry Bush children are really well prepared to make the most of this next exciting step, and we have some fantastic primary schools in Bury, it can feel like a very big decision for Mums and Dads! Good luck with it!

### Thank you!

We care very much about the nurseries and all of the children in our care and are constantly striving to provide the best care we can!

If you have any ideas or suggestions of things we could do differently or better, please don't hesitate to bring those to any of us.

All members of the team will always be happy to talk to you, and please don't forget that you are always welcome to contact any member of management or the directors with any queries or questions. All of our contact details are shown on the next page.



Contact details

Dumers Lane Nursery	0161 672 3338	Emergency contact no: 07517 153 955 (should landline be out of action) <a href="mailto:dumers@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk">dumers@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk</a>
Tottington Nursery	01204 88 5656	Emergency contact no: 07542 137 531 (should landline be out of action) <a href="mailto:tottington@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk">tottington@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk</a>
Walshaw Nursery	0161 797 3788	Emergency contact no: 07542 117 942 (should landline be out of action) <a href="mailto:walshaw@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk">walshaw@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk</a>
Whitefield Nursery	0161 766 5742	Emergency contact no: 07512 793 751 (should landline be out of action) <a href="mailto:whitefield@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk">whitefield@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk</a>
Walmersley Nursery	0161 761 0150	Emergency contact no: 07512 788 201 (should landline be out of action) <a href="mailto:walmersley@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk">walmersley@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk</a>
Senior Manager	07807 216 415	Stacey Kenyon <a href="mailto:stacey.kenyon@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk">stacey.kenyon@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk</a>
Directors	0161 761 0127	Jo - 07872 464 283 <a href="mailto:jo.kinloch@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk">jo.kinloch@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk</a>  Paul - 07919 921 673 <a href="mailto:paul.robinson@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk">paul.robinson@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk</a>  Andy - 07723 054 414 <a href="mailto:andy.robinson@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk">andy.robinson@mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk</a>