



**CORTENBERGH NURSERY**

**Le Trèfle à Quatre Feuilles V**

Avenue de Cortenbergh No 172, 1000 Brussels

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**Scheduled for May 2019 for the babies 1 section:**

For the youngest children in the nursery, the five senses will play a central role in their early learning. **The theme of fruit and vegetables** will be the common thread this May in order to guide the team while creating their activities.

First of all, visual stimulation will involve **decorating the classroom** on the theme, as well as picture books. Short stories and songs will be acted out with **fruit and vegetable puppets** made by the educational team. This activity will help develop their language but also their social and emotional area thanks to the **interaction between the characters**. Furthermore, a photo session on the theme of fruit and vegetables will be organised with the children.

In terms of **taste and smell**, the biggest children in the class will be able to discover different fruit and vegetables during a tasting platter bursting with colour but also when tasting orange juice.

**Sensory and handling activities** will take place through various games provided to the children: rattles, blocks, stuffed toys, musical instruments, etc. Furthermore, in light of the theme of the month, the children will have a “fruit and vegetable discovery” activity when they will be able to play with peelings.

During **psychomotor courses**, the children will get the chance to explore their environment and discover their body. **Fruit and vegetables will be hidden** on the different courses, stimulating the children in their exploration.

The Chaise Musicale workshops will be run by Françoise, the Chaise Musicale presenter, and will **take place on Tuesday 7th and 28th May at 10 am in the babies 1 class**. These workshops will be the chance for the younger ones to be lulled by soothing melodies and nursery rhymes but also to help with performing the songs.

This May, the nursery will be **closed** for four days: **Wednesday 1st May** for labour day, **Thursday 9th May** as well as **Thursday 30th and Friday 31st May**.



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**Scheduled for May 2019 for the babies 2 section:**

The babies 2 class will begin the month of May in song and to the rhythm of spring. In fact, the team in this class has decided to choose **the theme of music**. This theme will teach the children many songs but also familiarise them with the world of music.

In terms of artistic activities, they will get the chance to **make several instruments**: creating a guitar (painting and fastening the strings) and a rainstick. During these activities, the children will be able to have fun while working on different **motor, sensory and cognitive skills**: grip, oculomotor coordination, touch, attention, inhibition, etc.

Of course, **songs and nursery rhymes** will have a key role during the morning assembly but also through free play and activities. The musical education workshop will be run by Françoise, the Chaise Musicale presenter, and will **take place on Tuesday 21st May at 10 am in the babies 2 class**.

The children's language and sight will be stimulated thanks to **picture books on the theme of instruments** and short stories read by the team. In order to make this experience more fun, the picture books will be accompanied by different **sounds made by instruments**.

Finally, the team will continue to offer **psychomotor courses** when the children will be able to climb, pass under a bridge or through a hoop, crawl, move through a tunnel, slide down slides, etc. They will also have fun in the **ball pool** and during games outdoors, which will be another chance to work on their movement.

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**Scheduled for May 2019 for the Toddlers section:**

Having discovered the world during April through several projects: world cuisine, drawing flags, making a world map, etc, the children will continue on their multicultural journey by choosing to explore **art around the world**.

Scheduled for May, the team in this class has planned to revisit and **adapt several famous works of art**: Magritte, Andy Warhol, Keith Haring, etc. All the children will get the chance to create **their own colourful picture with their cuddly toy**. There will also be a craft activity entitled "Ceci n'est pas une tute". Furthermore, all the children will draw their own silhouette, which they will be able to colour in with pastels. To complete this artistic education, the section will organise free painting on large wall canvases, colouring in and painting with different textures (rice, sand, flour, sugar, etc).

In terms of culinary activities, Friday mornings promise to be packed with fun and discovery. The following are planned for this May: **creating an edible present** for the mums, making a shortbread pyramid, **making a smoothie full of fruits and vitamins** and tasting multicoloured madeleines.

The Chaise Musicale workshop will take place on **Tuesday 14th May at 10 am** in the toddlers class. For the rest of the activities to stimulate hearing, the team in this class will play **nursery rhymes and music from around the world**. The children will also have the opportunity to **make several instruments**, such as **rainsticks or maracas**.

Psychomotor skills are still a key activity for the children in this class, who need to discover their body and want to **jump, run, crawl, climb**, etc. All of this will be based on the theme of the world tour. For example, the children will be able to climb a pyramid, hide in an igloo, jump like kangaroos or cross a bridge surrounded by crocodiles.

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**Scheduled for May 2019 for the Big Kids section:**

**Spring and the Garden**, this is the theme chosen by the big kids team for this fifth month of the year. This will allow the children to **discover nature and explore the outside world**. This theme promises to be **packed with learning** and “scientific” experiments. In particular, the children will get the chance **to observe an anthill**, to **slip into the shoes of a young gardener** (growing watercress and games with soil) and to take part in a **sensory game** when they will have to recognise several smells of plants and fruits.

The children in this class will also get the chance to make several discoveries during the **culinary activities**. In fact, these activities are an opportunity to learn about taste, smell, touch, fine motor skills and creativity. The following are planned for this May: **soup with the watercress** which the children will have grown, cereal bars, a crumble and **making flowers with fruits and vegetables**.

We will also focus on **psychomotor skills** with a “**musical flower**” when the children will learn to synchronise their movements to the rhythm of the music and will be able to test their inhibition. The team in this class will also set up a psychomotor course with sensory trays. **Working on drawing, mathematical reasoning and fine motor skills** will be done through mini games and fun activities on the theme: matching pictures, gluing bobbles to make a flower, hanging clothes pegs onto a flower while following instructions (number of points), etc.

Finally, the month of May will also be the chance to tackle **the social and emotional area** by making a present for Mother’s Day and creating a group bouquet of flowers with the children’s hands.

This May, **the Chaise Musicale workshops** will take place on Tuesday 7th and 21st May at 10:30 am. This will be the chance for the children to discover new instruments, to learn new songs and to open up to the world of music. This May, the nursery will be **closed** for four days: **Wednesday 1st May** for labour day, **Thursday 9th May** as well as **Thursday 30th and Friday 31st May**.



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**Scheduled for May 2019 for the School section:**

The arrival of the lily of the valley and other flowers will lead us nicely onto the theme “**Discovering the garden and vegetable garden**”. In addition to this theme, some of the activities will be dedicated to Mother’s Day and to **discovering Romania**, the fourth country explored as part of our multicultural project.

During May, we will continue to work on **social and emotional development** with the **Petit Loup project** but also with Mother’s Day: talking about their parents, making a present for their mum, responsibilities in the classroom, classmates helping each other, etc. Furthermore, during the morning assembly, the children will get the chance to talk about their experiences with **the puppets from the theatre of emotions**.

This **theme revolving around nature** will also offer the chance to stimulate the children about “**science**” and to offer them several experiments: learning how a vegetable garden works, **watching seeds being planted**, discovering different fruits and vegetables, etc.

To **improve the vocabulary** of our young schoolchildren, books and picture books on the theme will be used, in particular with several children’s books: “Une si petite graine”, “Toujours rien”, “Le potager de Lily”, etc.

Our **psychomotor** sessions will get into the travelling spirit as the children go on a **tour of Romania**. One of the psychomotor courses will also be dedicated to **discovering the vegetable garden**. In terms of **fine motor skills**, the children will have the chance to get some practice during artistic and sensory activities: colouring in, cutting, handling seeds, collages, planting, etc.

This May, the **Chaise Musicale workshops** will take place on **Tuesday 14th and 28th at 10:30 am**. This will be the chance for the children to discover new instruments, to learn new songs and to open up to the world of music. This musical education will be completed by listening to nursery rhymes and by **discovering Romanian music**.

**Culinary activities** will always be part of the programme on Friday morning. These activities will be organised for teaching purposes so the children can **discover new flavours, smells and textures** but also **enjoy cooking**. This May, the school is planning to make **Romanian specialities**, a **soup with the aromatic herbs** that they will have planted, as well as trying vegetable crudités but also making birthday cakes.

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Mathilde Trépant - Head Teacher  
Cortenbergh Nursery