



# Nursery Newsletter

## Spring Term 1

Here is a summary of what and how your child will be learning this half term:

**We had a really busy first term in Nursery and are pleased with how well all of the children have settled in. We offer a warm welcome to our new children and families and wish you all a happy new year!**

The routine of the nursery sessions cover all seven areas of learning included in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The children participate in independent, self-chosen activities which are planned for and purposeful. Our pre-school children take part in a range of adult-led maths and phonics activities each week; of course the younger children can choose to join in too if they wish! We have a song time, snack time and story time each session.

### **Personal, Social & Emotional Development (PSED)**

The children will be encouraged to initiate conversations with their peers and grow in confidence as they speak with other children. We will spend time observing how the children accept the needs of others in the setting.

### **Communication & Language (CL)**

The children will be encouraged to join in with familiar stories. We will spend time teaching and seeing how the children use prepositional language. We will encourage the children to use talk to connect their thoughts and ideas.

### **Physical Development (PD)**

Children will spend time developing their gross motor skills, particularly through drawing lines and circles. We will encourage the children to dress themselves independently; this will include putting their own coats on and getting ready for Explore Outdoors on Tuesday afternoons.

### **Literacy**

Children will be encouraged to show an interest in print and illustrations in a range of books whilst they explore books independently. Children will have access to a range of mark making materials and will be encouraged to recognise and attempt to write the first letter, and then other letters, in their names.

### **Maths**

Children will be encouraged to match numerals 0-10 to the correct quantity. Children will explore a range of shapes in the environment and match shapes with pictures.

### **Understanding the World (UW)**

We will spend time talking about the special time the children had over the Christmas break. The children will explore a range of toys that move and will be encouraged to talk about how different things work.

### **Expressive Arts & Design (EAD)**

The children will explore a range of construction materials and be encouraged to build with a purpose. We will encourage the children to develop simple stories in their role play with props to support them.

### **Phonics**

The children participate in activities from Phase One of the Letters and Sounds documents produced by the Government. This half-term the focus will be body percussion and rhythm and rhyme.



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### Wrap around care option

As we have had some questions about the Nursery wrap around care option I felt it was important to clarify what is written in the contract which each of you signed in September (or when your child started with us if they started after this date).

The wrap around care option allows parents to drop their child at nursery any time between 8.45 and 9.00 and collect their child between 3.00 and 3.15 at a cost of £1 per 'session'. You will be invoiced for any sessions the following month. If you leave your child before 9.00 you will be charged £1, if you collect your child after 3.00 you will be charged £1. Parents are welcome to stay in the nursery until 9.00 with their child rather than waiting outside if you do not wish to pay for the wrap around care option.

The reason we began the wrap around care option was because of parents dropping siblings in school not wanting to wait around for the nursery doors to open. The reason we charge for the 'session' (if your child is left in nursery) is because this time falls outside of the regular operating hours which are 9.00-12 or 9.00-3.00. Parents who pay for sessions pay for sessions of 3 hours. Those whose children are entitled to free hours are entitled to 5 (or 10) sessions of 3 hours.

Due to the confusion around the wrap around care option we have amended our Nursery registers so they now include a space for you to write down the time you leave your child in the morning and the time you collect them in the afternoon. It is the responsibility of the parents, or whoever is dropping your child into nursery, to fill in the time. There is also a column headed WA (wrap around) which will be ticked if you are to be charged for the wrap around care option.

The other options, which are in operation at other local nurseries, are to change the session times to 8.45-11.45 and 8.45-2.45, or to not allow any children into Nursery until 9.00 but we feel that the wrap around care option we offer is the most reasonable and flexible approach. We have found most families have welcomed the introduction of this additional service.

If you have any further questions about this please speak to me (Mrs Sage).

### Notes and Reminders

All of our sessions are very busy so if you require any extra sessions ideally these need to be booked at least 3 days in advance to allow us time to arrange extra staffing if necessary.

If you are ordering a school dinner for your child when they are attending for a full day please pay for this at the time of ordering.

If your child brings a packed lunch please ensure they have a drink in their lunchbox. Water is provided in the nursery building throughout the day but the children eat their lunch in the main school hall.

If your child is in nappies we ask that you provide plenty of nappies, wipes and nappy bags in your child's bag each day.

Don't forget your child has a key worker within Nursery and they should be your first point of contact to talk about any concerns or issues about your child. You can also ask your child's key worker to see their learning journey whenever you would like. At the end of this half-term you will receive a termly review of how your child is progressing in nursery.

If you have any questions please speak with any of us.

**Thank you!**

**Mrs Sage, Mrs Miller & Miss Baker**