



Nursery Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn 2018

Dear Parents

Welcome to Nursery and the autumn term. We hope you will find the following information useful in understanding how much fun your child will have at our school whilst learning.

We place a great emphasis on developing good literacy skills in your young learners so much of our teaching is based around storybooks. The stories we will cover this term are: Owl Babies, The Enormous Turnip, Room on the Broom, Nursery Rhymes and The Gingerbread Man. We also have a few themed weeks planned. These include 'Ditch the Dummy' and 'Christmas is Coming'.

miStAkEs
are proof
that you are
TRYING

What are we learning this term?

Communication and language / speaking and listening

We will be teaching the children to 'tune in'. To listen carefully when others are speaking, take their turn to speak and respond appropriately. Older Nursery children will be learning to identify words that rhyme and hear syllables within words.

You could, introduce some 'quiet time' at home. Turn off the TV/ iPad and have a conversation. Discourage your child from 'butting in' when you are speaking. Check if they are listening by questioning them about what's just been said.

Literacy / English

We will be teaching the children essential early reading and early writing skills.

We encourage you to read a story to your child every night. Allow them to draw, colour and paint both large scale and small.

Mathematical development

We will be teaching the children to 'rote count'. This is saying number names in order. They will also learn to count amounts accurately by touching each object and saying one number. The children will become familiar with shapes and the language of measures. Older Nursery children will be recognising and ordering numerals forwards to ten.

You can, play games which involve numbers and counting, point out numbers in the environment and count whenever possible, such as when climbing the stairs to bed!

Top Tips.....

Name EVERYTHING, including shoes, with a permanent marker pen.

Leave toys at home; they may get lost, broken or 'borrowed' in Nursery.

When buying new clothes look for easy fastenings; elastic and Velcro are easier than buttons, buckles or laces.

Keep an eye on their health. It's common for children to catch more colds and mild illnesses when they first begin Nursery as they mix more and build their natural immunity. Plenty of sleep, a healthy diet and lots of cuddles help.

Nursery dinners

Unfortunately, universal free school meals are not available to Nursery children and cost £1.75 a day.

You may be entitled to apply for free school meals if you receive any kind of benefits. Please ask at the office.

Please place any monies, letters or reply slips in the black letterbox on the kitchen wall. Thank you.



Meet the team.



Headteacher

Mrs J Townsend



Safeguarding Officer

Ms C Redgate



Special Educational Needs Coordinator and Foundation Stage Leader

Mrs A Priest



Lead Nursery Teacher. Key Worker for Ladybird and Busy Bee groups

Mrs H Hindmarch



Nursery Teacher

Mrs K Taylor



Level 3 Teaching assistant & Nursery Nurse. Key worker for Butterfly group.

Mrs S Parkes



Level 2 Teaching assistant supervising lunchtimes and outdoor play

Mrs W Schofield.

PSHE

We will be encouraging children to make lots of new friends, to share resources with others, and play cooperatively in a group.

You could, arrange 'play dates' with new friends. Ensure children use words not force when 'sharing' at home, especially with siblings! We teach the children to say 'Please can I have that when you've finished' rather than grab.

Physical

We provide lots of opportunities to play outside that involve climbing, balancing, jumping as well as moving in different ways, such as on scooters, bikes and two legs!

Creative development

We will be encouraging children to develop their ideas and imagination through role-play, small world play, painting, model making, music and movement. You could play games such as 'shop', 'doctors', or 'tea party'. You don't need lots of toys, just lots of imagination!

Understanding of the world

We will be looking at the weather and seasonal changes. Talking about our families and the communities we belong to and learning to use different types of technology.

You could practise learning 'the days of the week' and 'the months of the year' together.

Voluntary Contribution –

We ask for £3.00 per term. This helps us to buy the ingredients to make fresh play dough and to buy the resources needed for baking, forest school activities, and special occasions. Please place your donation in an envelope and pop it in the black letterbox on the kitchen wall. Thank you.



Please note that the Nursery door is unlocked at 8.45am every day, including Wednesday morning. On Wednesday afternoon the Nursery door is unlocked at 12 midday for children arriving in the afternoon. We regret that we are unable to allow children inside before these times as we wait for additional staff to finish their duties in school and come into Nursery to guard the outside door. This is for the increased safety of your children so please support us by timing your arrival accordingly. In poor weather will do our best to open the Nursery gate so you may shelter under the canopy until the door is opened. Thank you.

Wonderful Wednesdays

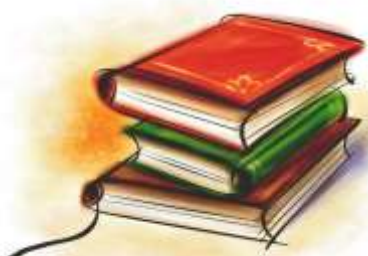
Mrs Taylor is the teacher in Nursery every Wednesday whilst Mrs Hindmarch works out of the classroom planning, preparing and assessing for Nursery.

As Wednesday is the only day of the week that all children attend Nursery at some point we use this day to offer extra special activities so that nobody misses the fun! Our 'Wonderful Wednesday' activities are baking, PE, and Forest Schools (outdoor learning). We also try to organise special events on a Wednesday, again so that everyone is included. The groups experience these activities on a rota basis. The children do not need any special equipment on these days as everything is provided. They may wish to bring their own wellies and leave them on their peg should they be taken outdoors, although we do have wellies to borrow, and please however bring a coat. The children will be asked to remove shoes, socks and jumpers during PE, (for safety reasons) so please take this into account when choosing clothes to wear on Wednesdays, (tights and laces are particularly troublesome!) The children are encouraged to bring their baking home to 'share' with you, although we cannot guarantee this as temptation is sometimes too great!

"Reading aloud with children is known to be the single most important activity for building the knowledge and skills they will eventually require for learning to read."

- Marilyn Jager Adams

Share a moment of love with a child.
IdealsBooks.com



Our School Library

Your child has the splendid opportunity to borrow and exchange books from our Nursery library. All books are labelled "Nursery library book" and we ask that you take care of the book borrowed and remember to return it. If possible please provide a 'book bag' to keep the books clean and dry. Book bags should be left on the child's peg for easy access.

Our Library borrowing will begin after the half term holiday. Watch out for a letter explaining how to fill in the 'reading record' book which accompanies the library book. Please write in this book to help us keep a record of your child's interest in books and their passion for reading. At the end of the year these reading record books are passed on to the next teacher.

Children who share stories with an adult on a regular basis do find learning to read easier.



Dates for your diary

- **Friday 28th Sept.** Macmillian Bun sale. Please send donations of buns and 20p to 'buy' a bun. (one bun per child only)
- **Thurs 4th Oct.** All children are offered a free hot meal today. A good opportunity to introduce your child to school dinners if you haven't already done so. Order on the day as usual.
- **Tues 9th Oct.** Harvest Festival assembly in school. Nursery children do not attend the assembly but we do talk about 'Harvest' in Nursery. If you would like to donate food (tins, packets) to the festival please bring into Nursery on the day. Your donations are given to The Hub Food Bank in Stocksbridge.
- **Wednesday 17th Oct.** Individual school photographs will be taken today. We will also arrange for siblings in school to have their photograph taken together. There is no obligation to buy.
- **Wednesday 24th Oct 9.00 – 9.30am** 'Golden star assembly'. If your child is chosen to receive a 'Golden star' you will be contacted the week before and invited to attend. Only children and parents receiving a 'Golden star' attend.
- **Thurs 25th Oct.** Non-uniform day for £1.00 fee. As wearing uniform is voluntary in nursery, the children are invited to come to nursery in 'fancy dress' (this is the case for all non-uniform days whilst in nursery)
- **Thurs 25th Oct 3.00pm Nursery closes for half term.**
- **Friday 26th Oct. Training day. Nursery is closed to children.**
- **Monday 5th Nov 8.45am Nursery reopens.** 'Library' begins. Please bring your book bag every day from now on.
- **Tues 13th Nov 3.15pm – 6.45pm** Parents Evening. A signing up sheet will be displayed in Nursery the week before where you will be able to choose an appointment time. Also, during this evening, the school photographer is available in the school hall to take family portraits or for children who missed photograph day. Parents are responsible for arranging this.
- **Friday 16th Nov.** We celebrate Children In Need day. Please wear 'spots' and bring a donation for Children In Need
- **Tues 20th & Thurs 22nd Nov 2.00pm – 3.00pm** 'Stay and Play'. We invite a 'grown up' for each child to join us in Nursery and work alongside their child. The grown up could be a parent, grandparent, guardian, childminder, or other significant person over 18yrs. Unfortunately, we are unable to have younger siblings or babies in Nursery at this time and ask for just one 'grown up' per child, due to health and safety requirements. Children who attend Nursery full time should arrange for grown up to join us on **only one** of these days. Please choose whichever day suits best.
- **Thurs 22nd Nov. 3.15 – 4.45pm.** Parents Evening. A signing up sheet will be displayed in Nursery the week before where you will be able to choose an appointment time.
- **Fri 23rd Nov.** Tickets for our Nativity performances are sent home today. Each child receives two tickets. Please check your child's book bag for these tickets as they are required to attend the performance and it is not possible to hand them directly to each parent.
- **Fri 7th Dec . 9.30am** our first Nativity performance. (Children in Busy Bee and Butterfly groups). Doors open at 9.10. Please use the main school entrance by walking around the outside.
- **Fri 14th Dec.** Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save The Children. Wear a Christmas Jumper and bring a donation.
- **Tues 11th Dec. 9.30am** our second Nativity performance. (Children in Ladybird and Butterfly groups). Doors open at 9.10. Please use the main school entrance by walking around the outside.
- **Tues 18th Dec.** Christmas dinner for school dinner today. (Cost £1.75)
- **Weds 19th Dec.** Christmas parties in Nursery, including party snacks. (Morning children may not be hungry after Nursery) Children in the Butterfly group should bring a sandwich or order a school sandwich which can be eaten during the party. Afternoon children please bring **only** a sandwich.
- **Fri 21st Dec 9.00 – 9.30am.** 'Golden star assembly'. If your child is chosen to receive a 'Golden star' you will be contacted the week before and invited to attend. Only children and parents receiving a 'Golden star' attend.
- **Fri 21st Dec.** Non-uniform day for £1.00 fee. As wearing uniform is voluntary in nursery, the children are invited to come to nursery in 'fancy dress' (this is the case for all non-uniform days whilst in nursery)
- **Fri 21st Dec 3pm.** Nursery closes for the Christmas holiday and reopens **Tuesday 7th January 2019.**





Am I eligible?

You, and any partner, must each expect to earn (on average) at least £125 per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage).

If you, or your partner, are on maternity, paternity or adoption leave, or you're unable to work because you are disabled or have caring responsibilities, you could still be eligible.

You **can't** get 30 hours free childcare if **either** you, or your partner, each **individually** expect to earn £100,000 or more.

How to apply.

Go to childcarechoices.gov.uk

You will receive a unique code which you must bring into school along with your National Insurance number and the child's birth certificate.

If places are available your child can start in their childcare place the term after they turn 3 years old and only if you have received a valid 30 hours code, **whichever is later**.

Important

To keep your 30 hours free childcare place you need to reapply every 3 months directly to HMCR. School/nursery is not involved in this part of the process and places may be lost if you fail to reapply.

If you are unsure or would like further advice please ask at the school office.

Home activities

There are some excellent top tips for learning at home on the website below:

<http://www.netmums.com/activities/galleries/view/early-learning-at-home-pre-school>

Web sites for children - some offer a great number of games, songs, stories, videos etc. so it is important to know the site well in order to support and develop children's learning.

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/eyfs/>

www.boowakwala.com

www.poissonrouge.com

Please remember - not too much screen time though!

