

Newsletter

September 2018

Welcome Back!

A warm welcome back to all of our existing children and all of the new children who have started at Pre-school. We hope you had a lovely summer! We are very proud of how all of the children have settled in over the last few weeks.

If you would like to extend the hours that your child attends and add any additional sessions, we have some availability so please speak to Sarah.

Lending Library

We have a lending library located in the blue room. If your child would like to choose a book to take home, just find their name in the file and sign and date the chosen book out and in when returned.

18 hours funding

For parents who are eligible for 18 hours funding please remember to renew your 11-digit code every 3 months when your previous one will expire. Please see the HMRC website for eligibility.

Things to remember.....

We would like to remind all parents of the following.

The pre-school day begins at **8.50am** and it would be appreciated if you could drop your child off in a **ten-minute window between 8.50-9.00am** to make sure the pre-school session runs smoothly and your child is able to get the most out of the session.

Morning sessions finish at **11.20am** and prompt pick up is required so staff can focus on the lunchtime session.

Afternoon sessions begin at **12.20pm** and finish at **2.50pm** and the same applies as above.

We do have a late collection charge which we apply for regular late collections. Children who are late to the sessions also miss out on learning opportunities.



Attendance & Illness

Please inform Pre-school if your child is unable to attend.

Please do not bring your child to pre-school if they are unwell and remember if they have had any sickness or diarrhoea, they cannot return to Pre-school for **48 hours**.

Please don't give children Calpol and send them in if they are really not well as when the medicine runs out we are unable to top them up.

The number to call is **07983 961142**.

Lunchbox Contents

Please provide cutlery and a drink for your child with their lunch and we would like to remind you that we do not heat up food, so if you require your child to have warm food, you need to provide this in a thermos container.

Please cut cherry tomatoes and grapes in half lengthways to avoid any choking incidents.

Nut Free Primary School

Sandhills Community Primary and Sandhills Pre-School is a nut free School so please do not bring in any food which contains nuts. We do have children in the school and Pre-school who are allergic to nuts.

So please do not send any in your child's lunch. Many Thanks.

Notices

Please make sure you read the white board outside at the beginning and end of each day as important daily notices and updates are detailed on there. Posters are also located on the doors to advertise news and events.

Footwear & clothing

Please make sure your child has a pair of indoor shoes and wellies for outdoor play. Also, can you please make sure **ALL** your child's clothes, shoes, lunchboxes and bags are **named** and long hair should be tied back. It is very difficult for us to keep track of children's belongings if they are not named. Please ensure to pack a hat and put sun cream on your child during the summer months.

Fruit and vegetable donations for snack time

As always, thank you for your generosity in donating fruit and vegetables for snack. We would also welcome items such as bread sticks and dried fruit as well.

We would also really appreciate any donations of towels and tea towels if anybody has any to spare.



Invoices

Please could all invoices be paid by 5th October. If there are any problems, please speak to Sarah.

Questionnaires

Thank you very much to everybody who completed the questionnaires sent out before the summer holidays, we really appreciate it and value your comments.

Some areas brought to our attention were:

- 1) Parents felt unsure if their children's interests and likes and dislikes were being taken into consideration.**

Within the setting, children's interests and likes and dislikes are observed and recorded every day and used for planning. We have also put into place a Parent's Board in the Blue room, there are interest sheets for you to fill in for interests observed at home and we will do our best to take these into account.

- 2) Parents felt unsure if their children were encouraged to be healthy.**

Within Pre-school, we talk about making healthy choices at snack time and parents provide donations of fruit and vegetables.

- 3) Parents would like to receive regular updates on activities during their child's day.**

Within the setting, we plan for the week from Thursday to Wednesday. There is a flip chart in the Blue room with details of the book of the week, song of the week and focus group activities (these have been taken from the children's interests).

WOW Tree

On the parent's board in the Blue room we have our WOW tree where children receive apples for their achievements. If your child has a WOW moment at home when they do something that you are particularly proud of, please speak to your child's keyworker and we can put an apple on the tree for them to say well done!

This could be for anything from sleeping all night in their own bed, doing a wee on the potty or riding their bike.

Dates for your diary

AGM – Monday 15th October 7.30 pm, please see letter for details.

Harvest Week

15th-19th October is Harvest week and we will be making some soup and bread. We would very much welcome donations of vegetables during harvest week, thank you!

Half Term – 22nd-26th October.



Term Dates

Term 1 – 6th September – 19th
October

Half Term – 22nd October – 26th
October

Term 2 – 29th October – 21st
December

Autumn Term holiday – 24th
December – 7th Jan (Inset Day)

Term 3 – 8th January – 15th
February

Half Term – 18th – 25th February
(Inset Day)

Term 4 – 26th February – 5th April

Spring Term holiday – 8th –
22nd April

Term 5 – 23rd April – 24th May

***Monday 6th May – May Day
Bank Holiday***

Half Term – 27th May – 3rd June
(Inset Day)

Term 6 – 4th June – 24th July

