

Newsletter

October 2019

The Autumn term is now well underway, the weather has changed and we have been on some walks to collect conkers and leaves!

As the weather is still very wet at the moment, please ensure that all children have suitable clothing for outside play as we do still go out to play in light rain. Children also need wellies for the mud kitchen!

Please could all children have indoor shoes as well as outdoor shoes especially now that the weather is wet and muddy so that we can try and keep the dirt coming into pre-school to a minimum.

Please could you ensure that **all** children bring a drink in to pre-school with them and also that it is **clearly labelled**, thank you.

Pre-School Photos

Next week, we have Emily from Focus of Life Photography coming into pre-school to take photos of the children while they are playing. You will have the chance to view and purchase the photos of your child if you wish to. We will send out further details.



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.

New Staff Members

We welcomed Vicki, Hayley and Shalni to pre-school at the start of the school year. Vicki is a Keyperson and has her own group of key children in the ladybird group. Hayley and Shalni are pre-school assistants and support the other members of staff in many areas. All are settling in well in their new roles.

Committee Update

We had our AGM on Monday 14th October and now have new committee members. Thank you to all parents who came to the meeting and to those who have taken on the roles and



responsibilities. Without a committee, pre-school wouldn't be able to open!

Our Schools App

We hope you have all been able to download and have a look at our app. If you haven't and would like some help, please speak to a member of staff. The app is a great way of letting parents and carers know of any news and updates at pre-school. Hopefully we might save some paper too! Please keep an eye on it for updates!

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.

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.

24 hours funding

For parents who are eligible for 24 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. Also, as previously mentioned, no nuts or nut products.

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.

In the Blue room, we have a board showing a list of activities and group focus for the week. This will show what the children will be doing in group time and what our story and song is for the week.

We also have interest sheets on the parent's board in the Blue room. If your child has any particular interests, please fill in a sheet and we will try our best to fit it into our planning for the week.

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 use our bag tags provided as it makes it much easier to find children's bags when they need to be changed.



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

Invoices for this term have now been issued, please ensure that they are paid by the due date. If this is not possible for any reason, please speak to Sarah in the first instance.



Dates for your diary

Tuesday 22nd, Thursday 24th &
Friday 25th October – Emily Gooding
Photos

Friday 29th November – Wreath
Making – 7.30pm at the Main School
This is a school PTA event, please
see the flyer on the
pre-school door for more details.

Term Dates

**Half Term – Monday 28th
October – Friday 1st November
'19**

Start of Autumn Term 2 – Monday
4th November '19

End of Autumn Term -Thursday
19th December '19

**End of term break – Friday 20th
December – Tuesday 7th
January 2020**

**Inset Day – Monday 6th January
2020**

Start of Winter Term 1 – Tuesday
7th January '20

**Half Term – Monday 17th
February – Friday 21st February
'20**

Start of Winter Term 2 – Monday
24th February '20

End of Winter Term 2 – Friday 3rd
April '20

**End of Term break – Monday 6th
April – Friday 17th April '20**

