

Newsletter

January/February 2020

The term is now well underway and we are fast approaching half term! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break, although it now seems a long time ago! We would like to say thank you very much for all of the lovely cards and gifts given to us for Christmas, it was very kind!

We would also like to send a warm welcome to all of the new families of children who started at pre-school in January, everybody is settling in very well.

As the weather is cold and also very wet at times, please ensure that all children have suitable clothing for outside play such as warm coats, hats and gloves as we do still go out to play in the cold weather and 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.



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.



A few changes...

Parent's board

We now have a new parent's board in the blue room where you can find details regarding Pupil Premium funding, internet safety and other topics. There are also copies of the term dates for this year and next year if you would like to take a copy, these have also been sent out on the app.

Lending Library

We have revamped our 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.

Fundraising

Many thanks for all your support with our recent fundraising events it is greatly appreciated. We raised the following:

Partyman - £104.00

Christmas Fayre face painting and chocolate tombola - £153.00

End of term raffle - £20.00.

We are happy to share that we have bought several new resources for pre-school with the profits made such as Owl Babies, Oliver's Vegetables & Shopping Basket story sacks. We have also bought some song props and some additional resources for Read, Write, Inc.

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!

We will also post on the app if we are closed due to extreme weather conditions.

WOW Tree

On the parent's board in the Blue room we have our WOW tree where children receive apples for their achievements. If you 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 or text is **07983 961142**.

You can also email the office however please note that Sara is in the office on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and so emails may not be picked up on the other days.

If your child is unwell but you are unsure if they can attend pre-school or should be kept at home, please see the following link for a very useful guide and information on exclusions.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



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.



Term Dates

End of Term – Friday 14th
February '20 – ***Usual finishing
time of 2.50pm***

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

Start of Term - 24th February '20
End of Term – Friday 3rd April '20
- ***Please note that we will finish
early at 1.50pm in line with the
school finishing at 2.00pm.***

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

Start of Term – Monday 20th April
'20

Bank Holiday – Friday 8th May '20

End of Term – Friday 22nd May
'20

***Half Term – Mon 25th May '20 –
Friday 29th May '20***

Start of Term – Monday 1st June
'20

Inset Day – Friday 3rd July '20

Last day of term – Friday 17th July
'20 (Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st
July are Inset Days)



