

Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School

Newsletter Autumn One 2018

Welcome to Everybody: We are so pleased to welcome back old faces from last year and all the new ones this year. We hope we are in for a year of fun, new challenges and excitement.



Early Days: The children are settling into nursery well and we are taking things at a steady pace to give them TIME to build new relationships, explore new opportunities and enjoy new experiences - all vital for their growing confidence and independence. Our plans for this half term will be focused around all the lovely new experiences that your child will be having at nursery. As we get to know them as individuals, we will build in plans to satisfy their interests and ways of learning, with just the right amount of challenge to nudge them forward in their learning. We will also introduce them to ideas such as the seasons and celebrations - autumn changes, gardening, planting bulbs, etc.

Robin Wood: Please note these sessions are due to start in the next couple of weeks once the children have settled into nursery. There will also be invitations for parents to try a woodland session too. Details of the parents' sessions are to follow from Sue via pigeon holes.



Our Garden: Our garden area is now becoming established. The children will be having lots of fun planting vegetables, fruit, flowers and herbs and selling and cooking our own produce. Through gardening, we will learn where food comes from, healthy diets, new tastes and how food changes when it is cooked. **We will be glad of green-fingered help to set up and to maintain the garden. If you would like to help and are able to spare some time on a regular basis, please speak to a member of staff.**

School Photos: The school photographer will be coming into nursery on **Wed 26th and Thurs 27th September.**

Snack Money: If you have not paid this half term's £7.00 snack money, please pay at the office as soon as possible - thank you to all parents who have already paid. Don't forget that the money not only pays towards the fruit and milk on offer, but goes towards new books, toys and jigsaws too.



Something to Celebrate:



Birthdays this half term include Seif, Adam, Myla-Mae, Annie, Lily, Elsa, Kyle, Caleb, Emily, Erin, Rhia-Mae, Mia-Rose, Lucas, Olivia, Jaiden, Wyatt, Tommy, Sam, Jack, and staff - Karen, Jane, Saadet, Nic, Vanessa

Tapestry Portfolios: We will be busy taking photos of your child's early days to give you an idea of the sorts of activities they have been engaged in. These will be available to you electronically via Tapestry. Most parents have now provided us with their email details and have received log in details. If you haven't already done this you won't be able to access your child's electronic folder so please speak to their key worker. We are also looking forward to seeing the pictures and messages you put on the system to show us what your child has been doing at home.



Attendance: Please could you ring the office on 623640 or text 07415 869045 if your child will not be attending nursery? Please keep us up-to-date with contact numbers if you get a new mobile! Thank you for your co-operation.



Nursery Sessions: Please note we are trialling new opening times this term - opening and closing times are as follows:

Morning: doors open 8.30 - 8.40 am
session ends: 11.30 am (doors open 11.20)
Please be prompt to collect your child as staff have to clean and prepare nursery for the afternoon children, as well as have their lunch between closing for the morning and opening for the afternoon session.
Afternoon: doors open 12.30 - 12.40 pm
session ends: 3.30 pm (doors open 3.20)

For children accessing 30 hours the afternoon session finishes at 2.30 (doors open 2.25 to collect children from the Lighthouse)

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Clothing Hints and Tips: Please send your child in easy to manage clothing. This will encourage your child to be independent - laces and belt buckles are awfully hard when you're only 2, 3 and 4!!! Also, please name ALL clothing, including gloves, scarves, hats, etc.



Changes of Clothes: Nursery can be a messy affair and, although we do have aprons and waterproof clothing, children will still get dirty and wet from time to time. We want your children to enjoy exploring paint, glue and other messy materials, as well as wet weather; it's the way they learn about the world! Please could you make sure that your child has a spare set of clothes in nursery. Bags are available to store clothes on your child's peg, please just ask your child's key worker.

Are you entitled to 30 Hours Childcare?

If you think you may be eligible for 30 hours free childcare and have not yet applied please let Jacqui in our office know as we have a limited number of places available.

Pram Store: Parents/carers are welcome to store items, eg, prams and bikes, while your child is in nursery. Please note that these are left at your own risk. A limited number of locks are available from the office. Please ask a member of office staff.



Primary School: Shortly after your child starts nursery, you will need to apply for their place at primary school starting in September 2019. The application is completed on-line, please note it is **important** that you meet the admission criteria for the schools that you apply for; it is also **crucial** that you list three (3) schools - if you only apply for one school and you do not meet the admission criteria for that school, Warrington Borough Council will allocate the school with space available nearest to your home address. Please see Jacqui in the office - she will be able to answer any question you have and she will also be available to help you complete the on-line application if you wish.

School holidays: If your child is taking time off nursery for a holiday, day out or other event, please complete an **ABSENCE REQUEST** form - **these are available at the office**. School will close for the October half term on Friday 19th October and re-open on Monday 29th October. Don't forget to look and see what events will be on at the Children's Centre over the holiday period.



Wrap-Around Care: We have a limited number of spaces for breakfast and lunch clubs and additional morning or afternoon sessions. Please speak to Jamie or a member of the office staff if you would like further details.

Jeans for Genes Day, Friday, 21st September:

Wear jeans to nursery for a £1 donation to this good cause!