



Welcome back to the start of another exciting half term, you'll see from this newsletter that we will be as busy as ever with lots of fun and learning planned. An annual favourite is the arrival of the eggs which we watch hatch into beautiful chicks and teach them how to swim!. We also hope you will be able to join us for our Mother's Day celebration and other events held throughout this half term.

If you know of any friends, relatives or neighbours that are looking for a nursery place in September, please encourage them to register their interest with us by visiting nursery or calling the office. We would love to welcome them into our Sandy Lane family and you are the best people to share what a special place Sandy Lane is.

Marcia

We know that our car park is always busy at drop off and collection, especially as it is used by other visitors to our campus. Please can I remind parents/carers that the disabled parking bays are for the use of blue badge holders only. Thank you in advance for your co-operation



Forthcoming events this half term

World Book Day Celebration - Thursday 3rd March To celebrate World Book Day, we are inviting you all to share a book with your child when you drop them off at the start of the session. Children are also welcome to come to nursery dressed as their favourite book character.



Ducklings

We are so excited to tell you we have some duckling eggs arriving this half term!! All children across the nursery will be able to observe the changes and watch as the ducklings hatch and grow over 2 weeks.



Mother's Day - We hope you will join us for our Mother's Day celebrations on Friday 25th March. Look out for further details on Tapestry nearer the time.



We will also be celebrating **World Down's Syndrome Day** on 21st March this half term. We will be inviting your children to come to nursery wearing wear odd or brightly coloured socks.



Nursery Activities

Garden and Sunshine Room - This term's 'big question' is 'How do we know it's Spring?'



And the direction for learning for **Rainbow Room** this half term is 'What can I grow?'



Celebrations- This half term we will be learning about the **Pingxi Sky Lantern Festival** which is a traditional Taiwanese Festival. Look out for more information on Tapestry.

We'll also be spending lots more time in **Forest School** and the children have thoroughly enjoyed our new routine. As the weather improves, we will continue spending time in our lovely forest as well as doing more work and planting in our garden.



Sponsored Rhyme Time



Each half term, staff will post on Tapestry the songs and rhymes children will be learning with links to where you can find them on line. This will enable you to practise them at home with your child. We would love to see photos and videos of your child practicing at home too.

This half term, to raise funds for additional resources for all our children we are holding a **sponsored rhyme time**. On **Friday 1st April** children will come together to sing the rhymes they have been learning this half term and we would love you to sponsor them for each rhyme they sing. There are six rhymes to learn - sponsor forms can be collected from your child's key worker and further information will be available on Tapestry.

Home Learning and Tapestry Tuesday

Staff post a range of **weekly home learning activities** on Tapestry. As partners in your child's learning and development it is important that you support your child to complete these activities, many of which will enable them to gain extra practice and link experiences they have had in nursery. Please log in to Tapestry regularly throughout each week to ensure you keep up to date with these home learning challenges. If you would prefer a paper copy of the activities, your child's key worker will be happy to provide this. If you are having difficulty with any aspect of accessing or posting on Tapestry, we are here to help each Tapestry Tuesday. Please pop along to the staffroom at the start of your child's session and a member of staff will be available to support you.



How do I know my child is making progress in nursery?



Staff use Tapestry to share children's learning with parents and carers. The notes (observations) they write are linked to the areas of learning as well as providing information about how they learn and their levels of wellbeing and involvement. Throughout each half term staff post a range of observations and at the end of the half term will send you a short post which shows whether your child is 'on track' as well as some next steps. These are things you can do at home to support your child's progress and learning. If you have any questions about your child's progress, please speak to their key worker who will be happy to help.

School Holidays

School will close on Friday 8th April 2022 and re-open on Wednesday 20th April 2022

Snack Payments

The charge for snack can be found on the school website under the 'Parents' then 'New Starters' tabs. Some families choose to pay for the **full school year**, most pay **termly** but you also have the option to pay **half termly**. **Charges for the term are £16 for children attending 15 hours and £24 for those who attend for 30 hours. We are now able to take card payments at the office and would much prefer parents/carers to use this option if at all possible.** We understand, however, that a small number of you may prefer to pay online or by cash. You will receive a text message as a reminder when payment is due with the cost to be paid.



Attendance—good attendance is the key to good progress



If your child needs to be absent from nursery please can I remind you to ring the office on **01925 623640** or **text 07415 869045**. Please let us know if it is COVID related for you or any household member. Thank you for your cooperation.

Happy Birthday to You!

Children—Dexter, George, Ruby, Bobby, Alissia-Rose, Sophia, Alan, Olivia, Delilah, Arthur



Staff—Jacqui, Janet

Clothing

Just a little reminder regarding suitable clothing and footwear. Children are engaging in sensory play and quite often become wet or messy. Please could you ensure your child has a change of clothes in nursery and that they come to school dressed for the changing weather.



You may wish to consider purchasing a school sweatshirt. These can be ordered using the form available on the website under the 'Parent' and 'New Starters' tabs or pick up a form in the entrance area. Post your completed form in the box by **Monday** and your order will be ready for collection on **Wednesday** each week. **We are now able to take card payments at the office and would much prefer you to use this method if at all possible.**

Dates for your diary—Parent and Carer Events



In addition to our Mother's Day celebration, you are invited to attend the following events this half term. Don't forget to check Tapestry and our website <https://www.sandylanenurseryandforestschool.co.uk/> for event dates.

World Book Day—3rd March—Share a book with your child at the start of the session

Garden Room Parent and Child Cookery Workshop—We will post the date for this event on Tapestry

Tapestry Tuesday—drop in to the staffroom at the start of your child's session if you need any help accessing your child's journal

Parents and Carers Groups



Friends of Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School. This friendly group meets in the staffroom each half term to discuss how parents/carers can support the work of the school with things like fundraising, parent/carer involvement, including volunteering, and how we can all work together to make our school the best it can be. **See page 3 for our School Improvement Plan. The next meetings are Friday 11th March from 2.15pm and Wednesday 16th March from 8.45am.**



Our **Rainbow Parents and Carers Group** was launched last term. It's an opportunity for a drink and a chat with other parent/carers to share ideas, meet new friends and offer each other support. Dates for future meetings have been shared on Tapestry, please ask Kirsten or Nikki if you need a reminder.

If you are interested in joining either of these groups please just have a chat with me, Marcia, on the door at drop off or collection. **Come along and join us, you would be very welcome!**

2 Tanning Court, WA1 2HF - 07583 080521

Mon 4.30-6.00, Tues 12.00-2.00, Wed 10.30-12.30, Thurs and Fri 12.00-2.00



If you would like to talk to someone about any issues you or your family may be facing please speak to Kirsten, Marcia or Nikki who will be happy to help.



School Improvement Plan 2021 - 22



Our school improvement plan is simply a list of things to improve our school. We all know that our school is a very special place but we want to keep on working together to ensure we continue to meet our outstanding standards! Every year, the teachers and governors work together to make a plan of all the things that we would like to do to make your child's time at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School the very best that it can possibly be. To help us to choose the right things, we listen to lots of people – children, parents, governors and friends of our school. Then, throughout the year, we all work really hard together to make sure that all these things are done. Finally, at the end of the year, we check to make sure that we have done everything that we wanted to before we start again with even more exciting ideas. This plan sets out our priorities for this year, the positive impact these actions will have for our children and how you can work with us to help us achieve our goals.

Quality of Education - KEY PRIORITY - To successfully implement the revised EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) across the school including early reading and our creative curriculum

IMPACT FOR OUR CHILDREN- Children will receive their entitlement to the revised EYFS from September 2021. They will receive high quality early reading experiences and will talk about books/stories they have enjoyed. Children will engage in a rich and wide ranging creative curriculum which impacts positively on their attainment.

Behaviour and Attitudes - KEY PRIORITY – Develop staff understanding and confidence of self-regulation and executive functioning alongside a whole school programme of activities to support children's development.

IMPACT FOR OUR CHILDREN – Children will be demonstrating improved executive functioning skills and the ability to self regulate in a number of ways.

Personal Development - KEY PRIORITY – To raise the profile of oral health and being healthy across the whole school, including a programme of activities, parental guidance and workshops.

IMPACT FOR OUR CHILDREN – Staff, parents and children have a greater understanding of the importance of oral health, being healthy and associated good practice.

Leadership and Management - KEY PRIORITY – To continue to creatively secure ways to ensure the school's sustainability.

IMPACT FOR OUR CHILDREN – School will continue to be financially viable and therefore children will continue to receive high quality experiences supported by knowledgeable staff.

How can parents/carers support our priorities?

We believe that working in partnership with parents/carers, as part of our Sandy Lane family, is vital to achieving our priorities and securing the improvement of the school. One way you can support our school priorities for this year is to **attend the parent and child events**, including workshops. These events will be an opportunity to share ideas of how you can support your child's learning at home which will, in turn, have a positive impact on their overall progress. Parents/carers can also help by **ensuring your child's attendance is as good as it can be**, enabling them to explore and engage in learning and develop their skills and knowledge by having time to practise and repeat activities. **Helping your child at home with the learning staff post on Tapestry**, working on their 'next steps' from VIP weeks or Personal Plan targets. Using Tapestry to share things you have done at home with your child will also give staff valuable information about your child's interests and talents, enabling them to create activities based around your child's current fascinations to make new learning 'stick'.

If you would like to be more involved to support the school to achieve these priorities, please join our Friends of Sandy Lane Parent and Carers Group. Dates for meetings are published on Tapestry and displayed in the entrance area.