



Nursery Newsletter -September 2020

Dear Parents,

Hello and welcome everyone, what a fantastic start to the new school year. All of the children are settling in to nursery life, enjoying their time with us and beginning to make good relationships with staff. We are so impressed with how easily the children have separated from their adults & entered nursery so calmly.

Thank you to all adults for your support and patience with our new routines and ways of working, the 'Drop & Go' procedures are quickening up as the children become familiar with the hand sanitizing on entry. Can we just remind you whilst waiting to drop off and collect you maintain the 2m social distancing rule and follow our extended starting and finishing times. These new COVID restrictions are in place to keep us all safe. I thank you in supporting us to keep us all safe and to ensure our whole school community remains as safe as possible.

We would also like to welcome Miss Francesca Hall to our team, as keyworker to the green group. Miss Hall has made a great start to her career here at Seaham Harbour Nursery School and is looking forward to working with all the children and getting to know all the families.

Our initial learning theme this half term is "Early Days", giving children lots of opportunities to learn the routines & expectations of nursery as well as discovering lots of new learning experiences. We will soon upload some photographs to the school website so you can see some of the lovely things the children have been doing.

Stories from Home

We have attached a 'Story from Home' sheet for you to complete letting us know what your child has been doing at home. If your child returns this to nursery we will add it to their learning journal.

School Fund

Thank you to all who have paid their school fund money. Please can we ask all children pay their weekly £2.00 school fund. This donation goes towards the cost of buying snack food, resources & equipment for the children to use. You may like to pay this as a block for a half term, monthly fortnightly or weekly. Please place in a packet or envelope with your child's name on & then drop it in the bucket at the entrance. (Why not keep some old envelopes you receive in the post & reuse these by taping them closed & crossing out the writing)

30 hour children

Please can we ask you to reconfirm your eligibility code for 30 hours on Childcare Choices and email Mrs Marshall with the details of your new re-confirmation date.

Thank you to all who have so promptly set up their standing order agreement. If you have not done this yet, please can you do this before the end of the month.

Names

Please can we remind you to write/label your child's coat, cardigan, jumpers, wellies, shoes etc with their names. If names are inside it makes it easier to return things to the correct children and avoid "Mix ups"

Tags

We have tagged the children's coats with small coloured fobs. This is to help your child & staff find coats when they are hanging on the pegs. We would appreciate it if you would leave them attached to your child's coat. (Obviously if you change your child's coat please swap fob over).

Wellies

Your child can bring a pair of wellies to nursery and leave them here for rainy and snowy days. If they do, we will put them on our new wellie stands under the outdoor canopy.

Dogs

Please can we remind you not to bring any dogs onto the school premises.

Inclement Weather - in the event of inclement weather please check the school's website www.seahamharbour.durham.sch.uk & local radio stations for guidance on school closures.

Mobile Phones

Please can we remind you for safeguarding reasons do not use mobile phones in or around the nursery school. (This includes texting, phoning, playing games or taking photographs).

Social Media/ Networking Sites

As we all know Social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter are now widely used. This type of media allows people to communicate in ways that were not previously possible. However, such sites can be inappropriately used by some as a means of expressing negative or offensive views about schools and their staff.

Although social networking sites may appear to be the quickest and easiest way to express frustrations or concerns about the School (and those associated with it), it is rarely appropriate to do so. Other channels, such as a private and confidential discussion with the School, or using the School's formal complaints process are much better suited to this.

The School considers the following examples to be inappropriate uses of social networking sites. (This list is non-exhaustive and intended to provide examples only):

- Making allegations about staff or pupils at the School/cyber-bullying;
- Making complaints about the School/staff at the School;
- Making defamatory statements about the School or staff at the School;
- Posting negative/offensive comments about specific pupils/staff at the School;
- Posting racist comments;
- Posting comments which threaten violence.

Please can we ask for your co-operation in following these guidelines when using Social media/ Networking sites.

Parent Review Meetings

These would normally take place in the Autumn term, however this year the meetings may not be able to go ahead in the usual format. As and when guidance changes we will let you know our plans.

Christmas Celebrations

We will be celebrating Christmas, but again we are sure it will be different, again once decisions are made we will let you know as soon as possible.

Starting School Forms

Please find attached a leaflet giving instructions as to how to apply for a school place for your child to start school next September. The closing date for applications is **Friday 15th January 2021** and **MUST** be made by this date. Any applications received after this date, may result in your child not getting a school of your choice.

Breakfast Club

This is available from 8.00-8.45, £2.00 per day. Please contact Mrs Marshall in the office for further information.

Website

Please keep checking this out for information, dates of events & photographs www.seahamharbour.durham.sch.uk . We have also created a new section COVID 19 Information page, where we will upload information and guidance for parents and families.

Spare Uniforms

We still have lots of spare uniforms, many are new. If you would like any please help yourself from the rails outside the building.

Parent Governors

The school governing body have a vacancy for a parent governor. If you are interested in becoming a governor or would like more information on this place can you see Mrs Scott before 9th October.

School closes

Friday 23rd October 2020 for half term and re-opens Monday 2nd November 2020.

Thank you
Mrs Scott