



Seaham Harbour Nursery School

Nursery Newsletter - September 2023

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.



Well done to our returning children too, they have certainly come back so well and are enjoying making new friends.

Thank you to all adults for your support and patience with our entry & exit routines. The 'Drop & Go' procedures are quickening up as the children become familiar with the hand sanitizing on entry and the home collection is also quickening up as become more familiar with all of you. If you need to speak to a member of staff at drop off or collection, we ask if you can wait to one side and then once staff are free they will speak to you.

The children are one big nursery class under the direction of myself and Mrs Wilson, our Deputy Headteacher. For organisation purposes the children are grouped into key worker groups; White group- Mrs Stewart, Green group- Miss Huntington and Blue group- Mrs Hall. All groups have a mixture of 15 hour & 30 hour children. Miss Keegan & Miss Christina support children with additional needs. Throughout the sessions children work with all members of staff, both indoors and outdoors.



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 and Class Dojo so you can see some of the lovely things the children have been doing.



Core Books

Over the year we will be sharing 'Core Books' with the children. The children will have opportunities to hear the stories read to them several times, take part in activities linked to the stories and borrow the books in their reading bags. Our core books this half term are "Kipper", "Peace at Last" and "Brown Bear, Brown Bear".

Please check out on the school website about 'Our Curriculum' which includes a section on Reading and Literacy and also have a look at the videos on letter formation/writing and phonics.



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 the whole year, a term, a half term, monthly fortnightly or weekly. Please place it 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). Alternatively, if you wish to pay by a bank transfer, please contact Mrs Marshall in the office.



30 hour children - reconfirmation of codes and payments

Please can we ask you to reconfirm your eligibility code for 30 hours and email Mrs Marshall with the details of your new re-confirmation date, (your code will remain the same, but the date will change). **If you do not do this in the allotted time requested when you receive your reminder email, then your child will not be able to attend full days.**



Thank you to all who have so promptly set up their payment instruction agreement. If you have not done this yet, please can you do this before the end of the month. **Please can you ensure your agreement has an end date on as instructed as we cannot refund overpayments.**

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". All uniforms look the same!



Tags/Fobs on coats

We will be tagging 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

For Health and Safety reasons, 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.

Starting School

A reminder to say you **must** apply for a school place for your child to go to school next September. Applications must be made on line by visiting www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces by January 15th 2024.

Any applications received after this date, may result in your child not getting a school of your choice.



Website

Please keep checking this out for information, dates of events & photographs www.seahamharbour.durham.sch.uk .



Facebook

We have a facebook account Seaham Harbour Nursery School, where we post notifications/information and messages. Please can you follow this account and share it with others. Please note, we will not post pictures of the children on this account.

Spare Uniforms

We still have lots of spare uniforms, many are new. If you would like any, they will always do as spares, please help yourself from the rails outside the building, or ask staff who will gladly sort some out for you.

Parent Governor

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 2nd October 2023.



Early Drop Off

This is available every morning from 8.00, at a charge of £2.00 per day. Children can come for odd days or on a regular basis, as long as they are booked in and paid for in advance. For further information, please contact Mrs Marshall in the school office.



Car Park

For Health and Safety reasons please can we remind you to use the side pathway and **NOT** to walk across the carpark when bringing and collecting children.

Tree Tags

Attached to this newsletter is a 'tree tag' for you to complete with your child telling us what your child has enjoyed doing at nursery since starting. If you could write on the tag (and maybe your child could decorate it or make marks on it) and return it to nursery we will hang it on our tree in the entrance porch for all to see.

Future dates for your diary more details to follow

- Tuesday 26th September - 'Parent Workshop - Learning Journals' for parents of NEW children only 5.00-5.45 ADULTS ONLY
- Wednesday 4th October - 'Parent Workshop - Maths in Nursery' 5.00-6.00 ADULTS ONLY
- Week beginning 16th October - Bulb Planting Week
- Monday 23rd October - Sponsored Obstacle Course
- Week beginning 23rd October - Governor Week
- Friday 27th October - School closes for Half Term holiday
- Monday 6th November - School opens



Thank you Mrs Scott

