



29th September 2017 - Newsletter 1

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome!

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome all our new children and their families to Freshfield nursery school and Freshfield two year olds. We are thrilled at how well the children have settled and they are already showing us how independent they are. They have also really impressed us with what they know and can do. We have been completing lots of observations to capture these moments, some of which you will be able to see on your Tapestry account. They are making lots of new friends and developing positive relationships with their group leaders and other staff in school.

Planning

We have been using all the information you filled in about what your child is interested in and used this to support us in planning some activities for them. During group times, the children have also thought about what they would like the role play area to be to. We had lots of great ideas with the most popular theme being castles. We have now created a castle and the children are especially enjoying being knights and princesses.

We have lots of different independent learning areas around the nursery that require regular topping up of resources. We would be really grateful if you could save and bring in any of the items from the list attached.

We noticed from the feedback from the parent meeting that a number of the children don't share what they have been up to with you. So that you are a little more informed of what has been happening we are going to send out a brief weekly overview with each child. We hope this will give you a better insight into your child's day. This will also include a section on the bottom for you to return to school with any WOW! moments your child may have had when not in school. These special times contribute to our assessments and help us consider next steps in learning.

To support some of our planning we would be really grateful if you could bring in some photographs of other family members, pets, special celebrations or places you have visited. We would like to share these during group sessions and create lots of opportunities for the children to talk.

School Library

We have lots of books that you are able to borrow and share with your children at home. These are available daily and you are welcome to change books as often as you like. They are placed in each group area with a signing in and out sheet.

Parentmail and Tapestry

Thank you to everyone for completing all the consent forms. Parentmail and Tapestry are now available for you. If you haven't already, please register for Tapestry so you will be able to access observations from school and upload information about things you've been up to at home.

Front Door Security & Safety

As you know we are a safeguarded school. The safety and security of all our children is always of paramount importance and we would therefore ask that you support us with the following:

- Please ensure that both main doors are closed when you enter or leave the building if a member of staff is not present
- Please remember to always place the large metal hook over the main gate on entering and leaving (even during pick and collection times). We recognise that this takes time but are sure you will appreciate how necessary it is.

Thank you for your support in helping to keep all our children safe. We would also like to thank you for your patience during the completion of the building work. This is now mainly completed and we should be free to use the space next week.

End of session collection

Thank you for your patience during our first few weeks of settling the children in. We have now been able to fully review our procedures for dismissing children. Please refer to the attached sheet showing where children can be picked up from.

Car park

Sadly we are not permitted to park in the Church car park and would ask that you find other places to leave cars if you are unable to walk. Thank you for your support with this.

School places and wrap-around care

We still have a few places in our daily after school care (2.30 - 3.30) at a cost of £5.50 per session and our additional hours (Wednesday 8.30 - 12.30 or 11.30 - 3.30) at a cost of £22 per session. We request that these are booked for half term period to enable us to maintain the correct staff ratios. Please see Mrs Longley for further details.

Snack fund

We request a contribution of £2 per week. Thank you to parents who have already contributed to our snack fund. The children are enjoying their fruit and some have already been able to share a cake and choose a present from our birthday box. If you would find it easier to pay for snack online, please see Mrs Longley for details.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Jenny Martin
Headteacher

