



## 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – Newsletter 1



Dear Parents/Carers

### **Welcome!**

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome all our new and returning children and their families to Freshfield Nursery School and Freshfield Two Year Olds. It has been an incredibly calm start to the year and we are so thrilled and proud of how well the children have settled. The children are already showing us how independent they are and telling us about lots of things they know. We have been completing lots of observations to capture these moments, some of which you will be able to see on your Tapestry account once we have received all the consent forms. **We would be grateful if you could complete these via the Parentmail app so we are able to activate the accounts.** (If you are not yet connected to Parentmail, a paper copy has been sent out to you.) The children are also beginning to make lots of new friends and developing positive relationships with their group leaders and other staff in school.

### **Planning**

We have been using the information you completed over summer, regarding your child's interests, to support us in getting to know your children and planning some activities for them. 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. Thank you.

### **What have we been up to?**

We would like to keep you informed of some of the activities the children have been enjoying during their time in Nursery. Miss Farndell posts a weekly blog, with photographs, on our website with a brief overview of what the children have been up to. We hope this will give you a slightly better insight into your child's day. *(Please note that we will only post images on the website after we have gained parent/carer permission)*

### **Parent contributions**

To further support our assessment of children, we find it incredibly valuable to have information from parents/carers. Once you have Tapestry set up, you will have the opportunity to upload special moments from home to share with us. We also have WOW! moment sheets in the entrance to Nursery for you to take, fill in and return to us. These special times contribute to our assessments and help us consider next steps in learning.

### **School Library**

We have lots of books in school that the children are welcome to borrow. Each group leader has a sheet in their area where books can be signed in and out. Please feel free to use this as often as you like. If you would like to purchase a book bag (£4 each) to transport your books please request one from Mrs Bulger.

### **Front Door Security & Safety Reminder**

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 the building (even during pick up and collection times). We recognise that this takes time but are sure you will appreciate how necessary it is.**
- **Please ensure that you do not allow any other adults into the building as you leave if there is not a member of staff at the door.**
- **Please close the After School Club and Breakfast Club gates securely behind you when both entering and leaving.**

We would be grateful if you could let grandparents, child-minders or any other adults dropping off or collecting know of these safety measures.

### **Wellies**

The children have loved spending time outside during their induction period. Our outdoor areas are always open and 'Nature School' sessions take place in all weathers, apart from any extreme conditions. To ensure that all children are able to access this provision, we would be grateful if you could provide a pair of wellies (named please) for your child to use. We already have waterproof jackets and trousers for the children.

### **Lunchboxes**

As we have a large number of children eating lunch at nursery, we would be grateful if you could ensure that your child's name is clearly marked on their lunchbox. In order to also make it a little easier to sort lunchboxes into groups, we would like to attach a small piece of coloured ribbon, matching your child's colour group, to each lunchbox.

*We have children in school with severe allergies. We would therefore kindly ask that you choose food/drinks other than milk, nuts (including peanuts and Nutella), eggs, fish or shellfish to go in your child's lunchbox. We would also be grateful if you could cut grapes and small tomatoes in half. Thank you for your support with this.*

### **Extended hours**

Please remember that extended, paid for hours that have been agreed (as per your contract) are unable to be amended until after half term. Additional hours funded through the 30 hours entitlement are not able to be amended until January.

### **Snack fund (main nursery only)**

As previously mentioned, we request a contribution of £2 per week, £14 for the half term or £30 for the full term. 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 birthday cake and choose a present from our birthday box.

### **Payments**

It is now possible to pay for school fund, uniform items and extended hours, by card, using the 'Parentmail' app. Payments can also be made by cash, cheque or via online banking. We also accept payments through the childcare voucher scheme and tax free childcare.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Jenny Martin  
Headteacher