



Nursery News

Spring 1 Term
January - February 2016

Welcome to the Spring 1 Nursery Newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new starters in Nursery and hope that everyone had a good Christmas break.

Classroom Organisation

With increased numbers in the mornings, Sandra will now be working with us during the morning sessions. We continue to have 6th form students as part of their placements throughout the week.

Recycled Materials

Thank you for all the junk materials that you have given us over the last term. Unfortunately I don't have huge amounts of storage space, so I will put a note on the board when we need more.

School Uniform

Nursery children are required to wear full school uniform. In particular, if wearing tights, they should be grey, as should trousers and skirts. All children should wear shoes (not boots), and they should be black. Ideally shoes should have Velcro fastening so that the children can fasten them themselves. Clearly, particularly with nursery children, accidents happen at the last minute — if that is the case please let us know. If you have any queries, the uniform policy is on the website, or I can give you a copy.

Start Time

I would like to remind all parents that the doors are open in the morning from 8.35 to 8.45 am. Please can you try and be in and out by 8.45am so that we can shut the outside gate. This allows children going to the toilet or hanging jumpers on their pegs to do so in a safe and secure environment. If you arrive after 8.45am please do so via the school reception.

If you have older children in school, after you drop off your child in Nursery, rather than walking through school, I have been asked to tell you to walk around the building and enter their classroom entrance. In the afternoon the doors open at 12.00 if you are having lunch and 12.30 pm for the start of the session. Please ensure you arrive promptly—again, the safety of the children is paramount and I am keen to minimise the number of times the door has to be opened. Additionally, Mary is on a tight schedule and cannot wait for stragglers for lunch.

Outside Environment

Our curriculum is such that we go outside in all weathers and we have the appropriate suits for the children to wear. Could you please ensure that your child has a hat, scarf and preferably a pair of mittens rather than gloves. It is incredibly helpful to us if **all clothing (particularly jumpers/ cardigans and shoes) are named!**

Stay and Play

The theme for Stay and Play this half-term is 'Numbers all around'. As with previous sessions, we will be inviting you in to spend some time playing with your children. Dates/times are:

Mon 30th Jan: 10.15 and 13.45

Wed 1st Feb: 10.15 and 13.45

Fri 3rd Feb: 10.15 and 13.45

Dance

Throughout this term, on Thursday mornings, some children will be doing short Dance sessions. We look forward to welcoming Georgia who will carry out these sessions in the hall.

Diary Dates

- ◇ 30th Jan /1/3 Feb Stay and Play
- ◇ 17th Feb School Closes for half term
- ◇ 27th Feb school reopens
- ◇ 2nd March World book day
- ◇ 24th March Comic relief
- ◇ 7th April School closes for Easter holidays

Spring 1 General Aims—N2

- ◇ Developing concentration and perseverance
- ◇ Developing fine motor skills
- ◇ Using scissors safely
- ◇ Listening to others and taking turns
- ◇ Rhyme and alliteration
- ◇ Putting things away after we have finished using them!
- ◇ Answering 'why' and 'how' questions

Shared Learning 3

We would like to have a big focus on **numbers** (counting, **number recognition**) and **shape** this term and so we have decided to make some emphasis on this by creating a small display in the numeracy area.

Please bring in or send a picture of your child with a number that is important to them— for example their house number, or car number plate, Or of shapes in the environment- for example a door (emphasis on the rectangle shape), car tyres (circle) etc.

Spring 1 General Aims — N1

- ◇ Turn-taking and sharing
- ◇ Developing fine motor skills
- ◇ Playing with others
- ◇ Listening to, and answering, questions
- ◇ Putting things away after we have finished using them!
- ◇ Talking in full sentences

Focus Child Weeks

Following the introduction of the Focus Child Weeks last term, Kerry and I will be doing another round this term. Look out for the information form for you to fill in prior to your child's week starting. We will be feeding back to you the week after the focus week, please let me know on your information form which the best time would be for your feedback session and if you want to let us know anything.

Additional Sessions

We have some wraparound sessions available in the afternoons — please let me know if you would like to book any.

Applications for School Places

If your child is due to start in the Reception Class in September please ensure that you have applied for a place at Swansfield Park Primary School. **Unfortunately, being in the nursery does not guarantee you a place** You can apply through the Northumberland County Council website. If you need any help with your application please speak to a member of staff.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in speaking to one of the staff.

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