

Apple Class Nursery News

Summer 2 - June 2022

bethany.whitlow@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk

anne-marie.arimes@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk

A very warm welcome back to our final half term of this academic year. We are hopeful of giving the children a wonderful summer in school full of exciting and memorable experiences both in the classroom and in our fabulous outdoor environment. We will also try our very best to ensure that the children get to enjoy a 'trip' outside of the classroom – a park visit which is something to look forward to!

Staff Organisation

This term we have a few changes in Apple Class – Miss Whitlow is no longer, and we say hello to the new **Mrs Farrar**! We also welcome Jenny Carr back with us in Apple as she returns from maternity leave. Jenny will be in Apple every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. We also must say a great big thank you and 'bye for now' to Hannah Ridley – as she moves further up school! Mrs Susan Young will be coming into Nursery on Thursdays to enable Mrs Grimes to carry out some important end of school year task. But, as always, Mrs Farrar and Mrs Grimes are your point of contact in person, by phone or by email if you have any queries or questions.

Promoting Independence and Being Sun Safe

For most, this is our final half term in nursery, and we would really like to encourage **independence**. Please encourage your child to put on and take off their own shoes/coats at home as this will be of great help when moving up to Reception or if staying with us, getting ready for the Autumn months and wearing wellies! Also, please do remember to apply sun cream to your child before nursery and to bring in a sun cap, as we will be outside in the sunshine.

Request for Resources

(We would love it if you could bring some items in)

Shells & Stones/Pebbles (any texture, size, or colour)

Plastic ocean creatures

Potted growing herbs and any other utensils (spatulas, spoons) for our mucky mud kitchen

Purses, handbags, fascinators, old bracelets, men's caps (anything that you do not want back!)

And of course, the usual, Junk modelling materials - cereal boxes, empty bottles etc.

Diary Dates

Apple Class will be closed, along with school, on Monday 27th June.

Last day in Nursery: Friday 22nd July.

Roll up day (transition day to Reception - for those children who are moving up) Wednesday 6th July

For those moving up to Reception, we'll send out a letter with the exact arrangements for roll up day but please remember that there will be a parents meeting in the school hall at 3.15pm on this day.

Trip to the Park

We will hopefully be having our school trip to the park on Tuesday 5th and Friday 8th July All that we ask is for children to come to nursery as normal, in school uniform. We anticipate much fun and excitement around this special event. We will let you know more details nearer the time.

Apple Class Sports Day

Our Apple Class sports day will run over 3 sessions, with each session lasting 30 minutes. Our sessions will be running on Tuesday 21^{st} June at 1.15 - 1.45, Wednesday 22^{nd} June 1.15 - 1.45 and Friday 24^{th} June straight from drop off in the morning until around 9.30. We ask that no more than 2 adults per child attend the session. We will inform you of your child's session in the next few days, but unfortunately we are unable to rearrange sessions. We ask that you use our Apple gate to enter and we will be there to assist you round. Coloured benches will be set up for your use. If you could remain seated throughout the duration of the sports day, this would be greatly appreciated. This is to ensure the children really get involved and enjoy their time completing the activities. We do encourage lots of cheering and really hope you can all attend!

Shared Learning

As parents and carers, we value the key role that you play in your child's education and we are committed to working in partnership with you to ensure the best outcomes for your children. As a part of this collaboration, here are the details of this half term's home learning task:

Create your own seaside model!

This can be anything – make a rockpool, a lighthouse, a seaside scene, design your own ice cream. We would love to see how creative you can be this half term! Remember, shared learning tasks form part of our Communication and Language sessions, as it gives your child something to discuss with their friends.

Our Curriculum

Children learn as they play and play is at the core of our curriculum in Apple Class. We provide a range of play-based provocations and encourage the children to engage with these. As staff, we spend a large proportion of our time joining children in their play, encouraging communication and language development. We encourage children to be curious, to ask questions, to spot things that are happening and to be imaginative.

Our themes this half term are 'Summer at the Seaside' and 'Healthy Me.'

We will however encourage children to follow their own interests and current fascinations.

There are many skills that we will be focusing on over the half term and beyond and these include...

- Turn taking and sharing fairly with others
- Speaking in full sentences
- Practice independence when dressing for the outdoor environment

We will **continue to...**

- Listen and join in with refrains and repeated language in stories in whole class discussions and in smaller groups
- Clap rhythms in words and phrases and listening to the initial sound in words (especially the first initial of our name)
- Follow instructions
- Ask and answer questions
- Retell stories and create our own
- Snip with scissors using thumb and first two fingers
- Hold pens and pencils with thumb and first two fingers to make shapes, lines and to trace letters in our names

Take 5 - simple ways that you can support your child this half term

- 1. Share and read many summer and seaside stories. Can you talk about and discuss the characters in the stories?
- 2. Cut out pictures of beaches and underwater creatures from papers and magazines to create a collage be sure to hold scissors with thumb and first 2 fingers, if you need a pair of child's scissors, just ask as we have lots!
- 3. Talk about places you may stay at if on holiday by the seaside e.g. caravans, mobile homes, tents, houses, hotels. *Have you been on holiday? Did you stay in a hotel or a caravan? Have you visited any other countries?*
- 4. As we learn and show interest in different occupations, can you learn the role of a travel agent? What do they do?
- 5. Can you learn and name some seaside creatures and learn some facts about them?

Thank You Parents, Carers and Grandparents

We thank you so very much for all your kind support throughout the nursery year. We have enjoyed getting to know you all and working in partnership with you. Good luck to all our children transferring to Reception in September and we wish you all a happy, healthy and safe summer!

Mrs Farrar, Mrs Grimes and all the Apple Class Team!