



# Nursery News

Autumn 1 Term  
September-October 2017

Welcome to the Autumn 1 Nursery Newsletter and welcome (back) to those returning to Apple class! We hope that your child has a fabulous time in our class, and hope that we can support you in any way necessary. My door is always open, please do not hesitate to come and speak to either myself or Kerry if you need to.

## Learning Journals

### Exciting news!!

We are currently developing a brand new online system where you will be able to view your child's learning and development. It will begin from Cherry class all the way through to the end of Reception.

The online journal will include photographs and information of significant moments during their time with us which will link to their different areas of learning.

## Classroom Organisation

Apple Class is taught by Miss Freeman and Kerry on Monday and Wednesday all day and Tuesday and Friday morning. Then:

- ◇ Kerry and Claire Hornsby on Tuesday afternoon.
- ◇ Miss Freeman and Claire Hornsby on Thursday and Friday afternoon.

I will have keyworker responsibility for all those children going into Reception next year, and Kerry will have a keyworker responsibility for those that will stay in Nursery next year.

## Birth Certificates

In order to confirm eligibility for funded places the school is legally required to keep a copy of your child's birth certificate. Please could you ensure the school office is given the original birth certificate to copy as soon as possible, if not already done so.

## Recycled Materials

We regularly provide the children with the opportunity to do junk modelling and collage. Could you please save any small boxes, Heinz ketchup bottles (squeeze tubes only please), egg cartons, plastic, milk cartons, kitchen roll tubes and wrapping paper tubes so that we can remain stocked up? A notice will be up on the parent notice board telling you what we require each week.

## Snack Time

This term we will be sitting together to enjoy snack. This allows the children to socialise and reduces disruption to any learning they are doing. Whilst we will encourage all the children to have something to eat and drink we will not force them to do so if they really do not want it.

## Library

We have a varied selection of children's books, including those linked to some of the things we are learning. You can sign them out at the beginning and end of sessions in the "library book". Reading to your child is incredibly important for their development, so we encourage you to borrow our books to share.

### **Outside Environment**

We go outside in all weathers and we have the appropriate suits for the children to wear. However, as the weather gets colder 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 and shoes are named** in order to ensure that they go home with the correct child at the end of the session!

### **Focus Children**

Once a term each child will be nominated as a focus child for a week. We will send home a short form to fill in regarding your child's learning and any comments you have prior to their focus week. At the end of the focus week we will invite you in to discuss in greater detail their learning and development. It is a fantastic opportunity to ask any questions you have.

### **Shared Learning**

Each half term I will be asking you to take part in a shared learning opportunity. For the first one, I would be grateful if you could send or email a picture of your child with their family for us to put on the wall. Having pictures of people special to us gives us the opportunity to spend time talking about a familiar subject and increases confidence.

### **Secret Reader**

In the next couple of weeks, I will be giving all parents, carers, grandparents, aunties, uncles, siblings etc, the opportunity to sign up to be secret reader. See the parent notice board in the upcoming weeks for the sign up sheet.

This involves coming in to read a book of your choice to the class at the end of a session. It is great memorable experience for you and your child! We trialled this last year and the children loved it!

### **Additional Sessions**

We have some wraparound sessions available to extend the time your child is with us to the full school day. Each wraparound session costs £13.

### **Curriculum**

There is significant evidence to suggest that young children learn best through play. We provide a varied range of resources and encourage the children to use them in ways that are meaningful to them. As staff, we ensure that we teach, model and support the children as they work on their next step across the curriculum. Please do not worry if your child does not bring vast quantities of artwork or junk modelling home—it just means that they are busy learning different things! That said, if you have any concerns about your child's learning or development please ask either myself, Miss Freeman or Kerry for an appointment to have a chat.

### **Autumn 1 General Aims**

- ◇ Separating happily at the start of each session
- ◇ Getting to know each other
- ◇ Getting to grips with the routines
- ◇ Developing the confidence to 'have a go'
- ◇ Dressing for the outdoors with minimal support
- ◇ Independently accessing the resources
- ◇ Learning to tidy up!

### **Stay and Play Session**

Just before half term we will be having 'stay and play' sessions where parents/carers are invited in to the session to stay and play with their children. Due to numbers only one parent/carer per child will be allowed to come, and we try and limit it to no more than eight parents in total at each session. A signing up sheet will be available in due course. It is a great opportunity for your child to show off what they do, and gives you a chance to see the nursery session in action.

It is vital that during these sessions no mobile phones are to be used, to ensure protection of other children. **Dates are: Mon 9th Oct, Wed 11th Oct and Fri 13th October.**

As the beginning and end of sessions can be quite hectic, if you have something concerning you that may take time to discuss, feel free to arrange an appointment to chat.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in speaking to us.

*Annabel Freeman (Nursery Class Teachers) and Kerry Wallace (Teaching assistant)*