



Nursery News

Autumn – First Half Term

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. Our door is always open, please do not hesitate to come and speak to either myself, Mrs Grimes or Kerry if you need to. **Please remember to look at the parent notice board regularly to check for any updates.**

Learning Journals and RWI

The online journal is our way of recording your child's development and journey from Nursery through to the end of their Reception year. It includes photographs and observations of significant moments during their time with us which link to the Early Years Curriculum that we follow.

We are looking forward to sharing these online journals with you and invite you to attend one of the two meetings that we are holding. **The first will be on Monday 24th of September at 9:00am and the other will be on Thursday 27th of September at 3:15pm.** In addition to the information given about Learning Journals we will also be giving you an insight into how we teach our phonics programme Read, Write, Inc. Some of you may already be familiar with the programme but it's always good to have an update.

Apple class blog

Every week we will be writing a blog on the school website which will talk about all of the exciting things we have learnt during the week. This will be accompanied by photographs.

To access the blog, go onto 'Swansfield Park Primary school' website. Next, select 'class pages' and then select 'apple class'.

Here you can also find all of our curriculum information, newsletters and significant and memorable experiences.

Classroom Organisation

Due to changes within the Early Years we have a different staffing organisation this year. Look below to see which members of staff will be working in Nursery on different days.

- ◇ Miss Freeman and Kerry **all day Monday**
- ◇ Mrs Grimes and Kerry on **Tuesday and Wednesday am**
- ◇ Kerry and Claire on **Tuesday and Wednesday pm**
- ◇ Miss Freeman and Kerry **all day Thursday**
- ◇ Miss Freeman and Kerry **Friday am**
- ◇ Miss Freeman and Claire **Friday pm**

Mrs Grimes and I will have keyworker responsibility for all those children going into Reception next year,

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.

We cannot use toilet roll tubes, and do not need cereal boxes as they take up too much space.

Focus Children

Once a term your 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.

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!

Secret Reader

In the next couple of weeks, I will be giving all parents, carers, grandparents, aunts, 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!

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!

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. Please speak to us if you are interested in any.

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.

Shared Learning

Each half term I will be asking you to take part in a shared learning opportunity. For the first one, I'd like to invite you and your child to create an Autumn picture. You might like to use paint, material, or real Autumn finds (leaves, conkers, seeds etc). We will use your artwork to make a display. Please could you bring your pictures into Nursery before Monday 15th October, Thank you!

Stay and Play Session

Every 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.

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. *Anne-Marie Grimes & Annabel Freeman (Nursery Class Teachers) and Kerry Wallace (Teaching assistant)*