



Apple Class Nursery News



Spring Term 1 2019

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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 great Christmas break.

Classroom Organisation

This half term, classroom organisation remains the same with the addition of welcoming Mr Simon Swordy. As we have increased numbers, Simon will assist in Nursery most sessions. The children are already familiar with Mr Swordy and we are looking forward to him officially becoming part of Apple class team. We will also 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/trainers), and they should be black. Ideally shoes should have Velcro fastening so that the children can fasten them themselves. If you have any queries, the uniform policy is on the website, or I can give you a copy.

Please can I remind you to bring in a full spare change of clothes (including underwear, socks and shoes if possible). Even if your child is toilet trained, accidents still happen or your child may get very messy whilst having lots of fun. If your child is not yet toilet trained can we ask that you bring in at least two full spare changes of clothes alongside at least four pull ups/nappies.

Applications for School Places

If your child is due to start in Reception Class in September 2019 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 in Reception class. You can apply online through the Northumberland County Council website.

<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Admissions.aspx>.

Outside Environment

Our curriculum is such that we go outside in all weather 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 (including jumpers/cardigans) and particularly shoes are named!**

Start Time

I would like to remind all parents that the doors are open in the morning from 8.35am 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.

In the afternoon the doors open at 12.00 for children having lunch and 12.30pm 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, Jenny is on a tight schedule and cannot wait for stragglers for lunch.



Shared Learning 3

We are having a big focus on numbers (counting, number recognition) and shape this term and so we will be 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. Alternatively, you could send a picture of your favourite shapes in the environment – for example an oblong shape face on a door, or a circle face on a car wheel.

Stay and Play

Just like last term, we will be inviting you in to spend some time playing and learning with your children.

Dates/times are:

Mon 18th March: 10.15am and 2.00pm

Wed 20th March : 10.15am and 2.00pm

Fri 22nd March: 10.15am and 2.00pm

Focus Child Weeks

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

FOR NEW JANUARY STARTERS: The focus week is where we follow your child's progress over one week and we will have a chat the following week about their progress.

Spring 1 General Aims — N1 (January children)

- 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

Spring 1 General Aims — N2 (September children)

- 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

School 360 Learning Journals - ATTENTION ALL NEW PARENTS

Very soon your child will have their own online Learning Journal (on our school platform school 360) with their own individual password (which will come soon). If you haven't heard of School 360, School 360 is a child friendly platform where you and your child can interact with great educational games and challenges. Here, you will also find all of the photographs taken of your child in Nursery alongside what they have been learning about. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to come and speak to any of the Nursery team.

Diary Dates

- 18th/20th/22nd March Stay and Play
- Friday 15th Feb School Closes for half term
- Monday 25th Feb school reopens
- Friday 15th March Comic relief
- Friday 5th April School closes for Easter holidays
- Tuesday 23rd April School reopens

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

Annabel Freeman, Anne-Marie Grimes, Kerry, Claire, Simon, Amy

