

6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Welcome to Nursery!** The children have all had an amazing start to the year! We are delighted with how quickly they are settling in and we are looking forward to getting to know them and to helping them grow over the coming months.

### **The start of the day**

Water bottle baskets will be inside the cloakroom door by the pegs in the morning and children can put their water bottle in the basket before they come in..

### **Water bottles**

Please name and decorate it for easy identification and bring to school daily filled with **water**. Fruit drinks are not permitted throughout the day, but if your child is having a packed lunch they will need a separate drink in their lunchbox, and this can be a carton of fruit juice or squash.

### **Clothing**

Please remember to name all school uniform including coats and shoes. Please can you provide your child with a pair of named wellies which can be kept in school by their coat peg (please send them in as soon as you have them). These are essential for enabling pupils to access outdoor learning, especially in puddles or the mud kitchen. Please also remember that your child will need a coat every day for outdoor learning.

### **Don't throw it out!**

Do you have any contributions of junk modelling items for our workshop areas? We are not permitted to use toilet rolls, for health and safety reasons, but are happy to receive cereal boxes, kitchen roll tubes, yogurt pots and plastic trays from fruit, and so on. Please make sure that plastic items are clean. We also can use fabric, wool, old greetings cards, rolls of wallpaper, plus large newspapers. If in doubt, please ask as we can probably find a use for many items!

### **Wows!**

We like to celebrate children's achievements from home and school throughout the week. Soon we will start to send a blank "Wow!" slip home regularly in your child's home learning folder for you to complete when your child has a "Wow!" moment. The Wow box will be outside the classroom so that your child can post the slip in. Please complete with comments such as 'James rode his bike for the first time without stabilizers today!' or 'Sarah has been brilliant at sharing toys with her sister'. There will also be "Wow!" slips available outside the classroom door.

### **Cookery**

If you would like to make a voluntary contribution towards cookery, we would be very



grateful. Some parents/carers are happy to give £5 for the year; others would rather give £1 a term. Please send this in to school in a named envelope at any time. We make things like soup, sandwiches, bread and cakes throughout the year, as well as our playdough, which encourages the development of physical, sensory, mathematical, understanding the world and language skills.

### **Lunches**

If your child is bringing in a packed lunch then please make sure that their name is on the outside of their lunch bag. Also please make sure that any containers inside are named and please cut up smaller items, such as grapes, cherry tomatoes and olives (please halve them).

### **Toys from home**

Please encourage your child not to bring in toys from home, other than when it is their “show and tell” day. Toys and personal belongings may get lost or broken and can cause considerable upset to the child (and parent!). We will let you know when it is your child’s turn to bring something in.

### **PPA time**

On a Wednesday afternoon the Early Years teachers have their PPA time out of class (planning, preparation and assessment). At this time Mrs Hamblin and Mrs Burnett Cooke are leading in the classroom.

### **Home Visits**

We would like to offer a home visit for Mrs Ellis and either Mrs Hamblin or Mrs Burnett Cooke to come and see you and your child at home. These visits will be arranged when it is your child’s focus week and will be offered to all nursery children (including the children we had last term too who have stayed).

### **And finally...**

As firm believers of the importance of good home-school links we encourage you to talk to us if you have any questions or concerns. We are usually free for a very quick chat at the end of the session, but if you have an issue that may need a little more time to discuss then we are happy to make an appointment to see you at a mutually agreeable time.

With best wishes from the Nursery Team

Mrs Kirsty Ellis, Mrs Gill Hamblin and Mrs Katie Burnett Cooke