



Nursery News



Dear Parent/Carer,

We have had a very busy term with lots of amazing learning! We had our Big Freeze topic in January and so far in February we have been learning about the people who help us. The children have engaged in lovely activities and it has been great to see them become more independent every day.

Our new topic moving into next term will be Growing. There will be lots of fun to come when we will be learning about planting, weather changes and becoming scientists by completing experiments. We will also be getting to know the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.



Parents' Notice Board - You have probably noticed our new board in the cloakroom. Please check this board daily or at least twice weekly. There is lots of useful information up there including key dates and learning outcomes that the children are working towards. Soon, we will also have a 'Home-Time Challenge' that we would love you to engage with. This may be anything from a fun game to a number hunt. This will help you to shadow the learning we do at school, at home. Watch this space! Please do continue with the Rhyme time sheet that is attached to this newsletter.

Home-School Communication - STAR MOMENTS! ★

Please let us know what you have been up to at home with your child. We will be using new 'Star Moments' sheets (found attached to this form and outside your child's classroom) as a useful tool to keep up to date with your child's progress at home and we will add this information to the children's learning profiles when we assess the children. Your contributions are so valuable towards your child's learning. Thank you.

Family Photo - If you haven't already, please can you provide school with a family photo. We will be developing our wall displays and it would be great if every child could have a picture on their part of the wall.

Special Events:

Open Classroom - You are welcome to come and see all the wonderful things your child has been getting up to in Nursery. We have been very busy and would love you to come and look at our blossoming classroom and learning. You can explore the learning areas with your child and share reading books together. We will confirm this date ASAP.

Book Day every Monday - Due to the fantastic response and the clear love of reading in Nursery, we will be continuing with this next term. Your child and you are welcome to come into the classroom to choose 3 books to take home and enjoy. We ask for these to be returned in their book bags by each Thursday.

Happy Healthy Kids - This event will be held at the Methodist Mission on Thursday 16th March. The 'Getting Ready to Learn' events are fantastic and help to promote and engage parents in their child's learning. We would love you to come along with your child. This session will aim to give you an understanding in how to promote health and wellbeing in your child's life and ideas on fine and gross motor activities at home.

Toys in School - Please can we remind parents that toys are not allowed in school. This is something that can cause friction between the other children and unfortunately leads to lost learning time. We would really appreciate your support in this matter.

Footwear - Please can we remind parents to ensure their child is brought into Nursery wearing shoes with Velcro. We try to promote independence wear possible and feel it is important that they fasten their own shoes. Laces can restrict this independence which is so crucial at this age. Thank you for your understanding.

Tissues - We are running very low so if anyone could provide Nursery with spare boxes of tissues, we would really appreciate it!

Fund Money - Thank you for being so great with dinner and fund money. Please can you keep an eye each week to make sure your fund money is paid and up to date. If you are ever unsure, a member of Nursery staff will be happy to check for you. If you are sending both fund and dinner money at the same time, please can this be in 2 separate envelopes. It really helps us with the logistics of sorting it out each week.

Parent Helpers

If you wish to come in and help out especially this term leading towards lovely Easter activities just let us know. It would be much appreciated. We are also keen to have visitors who would enjoy spending some time in the book area sharing books with the children.

We would love to find out if you have any interests or hobbies that you would like to share with the children. If you speak another language we would love to invite you in to teach us some words/songs/numbers etc.

If you are interested, please fill out the slip below and pass it to your child's class teacher.

Forest School

We are very excited to begin Forest School with St. James Nursery. This will start next Wednesday 22nd February with Miss Nevin's class. Please can we ask that if your child is in Miss Nevin's class that they are brought into school wearing their waterproofs etc (Welly Wednesday attire) This will be the case for 6 weeks and then it will swap to Miss Gallagher's class. Welly Wednesday will continue as usual for the alternative class.

We will keep you informed of any changes in dates and the learning going during this time. Brian, the Forest School leader, will be leading the sessions with the help of all the staff and our lovely Forest School Parent Volunteers. Thank you in advance!

Clothing and Belongings

Please could you ensure that your child has at least two full spare set of clothes in their drawstring bag, including underwear and socks. During the better weather the children really enjoy playing with the water outside and often get wet and need to change their clothes. Please can you make sure that your entire child's clothing and possessions are **clearly labelled** with their names. Although we do our best to keep track of children's possessions, it really is very hard when there are so many children in the Nursery and many items look similar!

WELLIES - Please can we ask that that **all children have a pair of named wellies that remain in school at all times.** The outdoors is such a huge part of our curriculum and we want children to be able to play in the mud kitchen/play outside when it's raining.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for making us feel so welcome into Whitehouse Nursery Unit. We are really enjoying spending time with your children and watching them blossom in their learning journey. Please feel free to talk to us at any point. If it is something that may take more than a few moments, we will happily meet at a more mutually convenient time. Have a lovely break and we will see you next Monday.

Thank you!

Miss Nevin, Miss Gallagher and the Nursery Team

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Name.....

Child's name.....

I would like to come in and talk to/work with the children. My
interest/hobby/special knowledge is.....