



Apple Class Nursery News



Spring Term 1 2020

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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, I hope that everyone had a great Christmas break and we wish you a very happy and healthy new year! The main themes for this half term are Winter and birds. We will go outside in ALL weathers so please bring a named pair of wellies, a hat, scarf and mittens every day.

REMINDERS:

Nut Free School

Swansfield Park are now officially a nut free school and we would like to remind parents (particularly those bringing in packed lunches) that products containing nuts (e.g. peanut butter/chocolate spread) are not allowed.

Full-Time School Places

If your child is due to start in Reception Class in September 2020 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. You can apply through the Northumberland County Council website. If you need any help with your application, please speak to a member of staff.

It can be accessed via <http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Admissions.aspx>.

APPLY BY JANUARY 15TH!

Illness

As most of you know, lots of children were off poorly before Christmas and the bugs have spread extremely quickly. Can I please remind parents that if your child is poorly, the best place for them is to be at home resting (so they can recover and no germs are passed on). If your child is sick, they should be off school for a minimum of 48 hours from when they were last sick.

Blog

A reminder to parents that I write a blog on the school website (under class pages) where I share photos and information about what we have been up to in Nursery, please take a read!

Pick up/Drop off

If someone different is picking up or dropping off your child from school, please let us know by adding this change to our collection log (see a member of staff). If it is not in our collection log we cannot release your child from school.

Outside Environment

Our curriculum is such that we go outside in all weathers and we have the appropriate suits for the children to wear.

Now that the weather is getting colder, could you please ensure that your child has a pair of wellies, a hat, scarf and preferably a pair of mittens rather than gloves. It is incredibly helpful to us if all clothing and shoes (particularly cardigans, jumpers and shoes) are named!

Shared Learning 4

We would like to have a big focus on **numbers (counting, number recognition)** and **shape** this term and so we have decided to make some emphasis on this by creating a display.

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, or of shapes in the environment— for example a door (emphasis on the rectangle shape), car tyres (circle) etc.

Focus weeks

This term we will continue focus weeks. If your child did not receive a focus week before Christmas, keep a look out for your letter when we return.

FOR NEW STARTERS: The focus week is where Kerry and I closely follow your child's progress over one week and we will find a time to chat with you the following week about their progress made since starting. It is a great opportunity for you to ask any questions.

Learning Journals

Thank you so much for the increase in parental engagement with the learning journals. As a team we love to see the learning happening outside of the classroom, at home. Thank you! Please continue to add photographs and let me know if you have any problems with your journal.

FOR NEW STARTERS: As a way of recording your child's development and journey during their time in Early Years, we use online Learning Journals. They include photographs and observations of significant moments during their time with us which link to the Early Years Curriculum that we follow. We encourage any parent/carer contributions and would love you to add your own photographs of any learning that takes place at home. There will be prize draws for those parents that regularly add photographs to their journals. **In the next couple of weeks, you will receive your login details and instructions on how to access your child's journal.**

Secret reader

Don't forget to sign up (on the noticeboard) to be a secret reader! The children have LOVED listening to a range of stories being read to them by a range of parents/carers, grandparents and siblings.

Spring 1 General Aims — N1 (January children)

- Turn-taking and sharing
- Developing fine motor skills
- Playing with others
- Listening to others
- Talking in full sentences
- Becoming independent- self-care and changing for the outdoors

Spring 1 General Aims — N2 (September children)

- Developing concentration and perseverance
- Developing fine motor skills
- Using a range of tools safely.
- Listening to others
- Rhyme and alliteration/ sounds all around
- Independent name writing
- Story telling
- Putting things away after we have finished using them (still!)

Diary Dates

- 14th Feb (teacher training day) School Closes for half term
- Monday 24th Feb school reopens
- LOOK OUT FOR STAY AND PLAY DATES IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER!

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

Annabel Freeman, Kerry, Holly, Amy, Joe, Claire