



September 2018

Afternoon Nursery - Autumn Term 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a new school year, we hope you had a relaxing summer although that may now be a distant memory. We would especially like to extend a warm welcome to the new families of St. Joseph's. We are sure the children will all settle in quickly!

With this letter is attached an overview of some of the things your child will learn this term and some of the routines. In Nursery we always try to plan according to the children's interests so things are subject to change!

In the afternoon we open the doors at 12.30. There is a flexible start and we do not close the doors until 12.45. The children will come in and can get started on an activity straight away. The nursery session ends at 3.30. Please be prompt at collecting your child. If you are delayed please phone to office as soon as possible to inform us so that your child does not get worried. We ask parents to come and collect their children from nursery before siblings in the main school. To help you with this we will aim to open the door 5 minutes early so that you can collect your child and walk around onto the playground to pick up siblings. Please make sure we are aware if someone different is collecting your child. If we have not received notice we will not be able to let your child leave until we have confirmed with you. This is for the safety of your child but can also be worrying for them, so please help us make sure it does not happen.

When bringing your child into the nursery, please see them into the classroom before leaving as the cloakroom area gets very crowded and busy. Please leave pushchairs and prams outside. There will be a Nursery staff member on the door. Due to the lack of space could we also ask that your child has a school bag or small bag rather than a larger rucksack. We also do not require a change of shoes. They should come to school in shoes that are comfortable and sensible and easy for them to manage. At the end of the day there we leave any notices or pupils work on the table as you come in. Please do collect the work that belongs to your child.

Our topic this term is Nursery Rhymes. For the first few weeks of the term we will mainly focus on settling the children in and helping them to learn the routine. Attached is some of the curriculum coverage for this half term. In the foundation stage we record your child's progress in their own personalised learning journal. If you would like to record a special moment to include from home there are stickers in the cloakroom for you to write on. We will then share the moment with your child and add it to the learning journal. We will also send home a page for you to add at half terms. At various times during the year we will invite you in to share their learning journals. If you have a journal from their previous setting, please could you bring it in for our perusal and we will return it to you as soon as possible.

The red lines painted across the path at either end of the nursery building are to keep the children safe. Please ensure your children do not go past the lines while waiting for the doors to open. We will also reinforce this message. If your children come to school by bike or scooter, please ensure that they do not ride in the premises. There is a scooter and bike parking area just beyond the nursery building.

Unfortunately during this term the weather changes for the worse. Please be aware that we go outside in ALL weathers and bring your child into school dressed appropriately. Please could you ensure ALL items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's full name. Children are asked not to wear any jewellery in nursery. If your child has pierced ears they are allowed to wear plain studs only.

If you would like to get involved in the school we have a very successful school association that you can join. We will post details of meetings on the notice boards, new members are always welcome. We also appreciate help in class, either on a regular or occasional basis. If you would like to help out on a regular basis please speak to either me or Miss Cannon. During the year there will also be opportunities for 'one off' help and for you to come into nursery to share your child's learning journey.

Snack money this term is £8 until half term, or £15 for the term. Please send any money (cash or cheque) in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name, class (Acorn am/pm) and labelled as snack money. You can also pay this online via the school website using School Gateway.

We would also like to remind you that parents are not allowed to drive their cars into the school grounds at any time. We appreciate that the parking can be difficult but our priority is the safety of the children at all times. We also do not allow anyone to take photographs with their phones/ cameras at school, so please be sure to have these out of sight when you are on site.

Please check parent mail and our notice board as we send important information, dates etc out this way.

If you are handed a 'please may I speak to you' card please do not worry! At the end of the session we may need to speak to you, for example to let you know about an accident. It is not always possible to catch every parent so we ask if your child hands you one of these cards please wait to speak to either myself or Miss Cannon.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns please come and speak to us and we will be happy to help.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Foster and Miss Cannon