

SUNNYLANDS NURSERY SCHOOL

JANUARY NEWS SHEET

Theme: Winter Colour: White/Silver Maths: Shape
Observations: Manners

Welcome back everyone and a very happy New Year to you all! We are looking forward to another busy term in Sunnylands Nursery School.

Mrs Loney would like to thank all the parents for all their kind wishes and lovely gifts presented to her on her retirement. On behalf of the Staff, Board of Governors, Parents and wider school community we would like to thank Mrs Loney for the hard work and dedication over the last 30 years. Wishing her every happiness from us all.



This month our topic is **WINTER**. We will be exploring many ideas around the topic of winter, looking at weather, colder climates, polar animals, keeping warm, looking after our wildlife, etc. Our maths focus will be on shape and we ask you to help us with this at home, pointing out and naming shapes in the environment. We will also be concentrating on promoting **good manners** in the school, reminding the children to use "please" and "thank you".

OUTDOOR PLAY

Jack Frost is out and about but it is still very important that we go outside to play as much as we can. Therefore, please ensure your children are sent to school dressed appropriately for outdoor play. We recommend a warm coat, hat and **MITTENS**, all with the children's names attached or written on. Please remember we have 26 children in each class to get ready for outdoor play so do encourage your child to put on and take off their own coats. Also **WELLIES** for any wet days, and **Velcro** shoes for the rest of the time please as these are so much easier for children and staff!!!!



COMING TO SCHOOL

In line with our Child Protection and Safeguarding policy, please do not walk through the staff carpark at drop-off and pick-up. Please use the main school gates.



MOBILE PHONE NUMBERS/COLLECTION

Parents please let staff know if any of your contact details have changed, it is always important that we have up-to-date mobile phone numbers in case of emergencies.

Please remember that only people named on your child's Collection List may collect your child from school throughout the year. If you need to add or remove any names and contact details, please speak to your Class Teacher.

If you need to pick your child up early we would appreciate it if you let your class teacher know at the beginning of the session or phone ahead to help prevent class disruption.

SCHOOL FUND

Thank you very much for your school fund contributions so far. There are still a small number of outstanding funds from last term, we would appreciate if these could please be settled by the end of this month.

This money is used for snacks, presents and extra-curricular activities for the children and we hope you appreciate that in order to facilitate all of this, we depend on your contribution.

ATTENDANCE

We had a large number of absences from school in December due to illness. If you know your child is going to be absent, please let us know the reason as we need to be made aware of what viruses and bugs are circulating, in order to ensure all preventative measures are in place to keep the school community safe.

Please also be aware of the importance of coming to nursery school if your child is **not sick**. It is important that your child attends nursery school regularly. Inconsistent attendance can lead to your child becoming unsettled, they are also missing out on valuable teaching and learning experiences, that may cause your child to fall behind his/her peers in their development.



BIG BEDTIME READ

This will continue every week and we will also be providing learning packs to help develop our home learning programme. The book bags and packs will be available to take home on Thursday and should be returned again the following Tuesday. Please ensure your book bags and learning packs are returned on time every week so we are able to get them ready for the next children to borrow. We hope you will enjoy this Getting Ready to Learn activity!

ADMISSIONS 2025

The EA Connect portal opens at 12 noon on Friday 10th January and closes again at 12 noon on Friday 24th January. All Birth Certificates and supporting documentation must be uploaded by 4pm on Wednesday 29th January. **Children who are currently with us in their penultimate pre-school year have to re-apply using the portal system.**

Please go to www.eani.org.uk for more information, or contact the school office on 02893 365739 if you have any questions about the application process.



When filling in your application for Primary School, please remember to state that your child has attended Sunnylands Nursery School.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

GARDENING CLUB - Wednesday 15th January

(Classes as usual)



As part of our Extended School Funding, Gardening Club will take place on Wednesday 17th January.

JO JINGLES - Friday 17th January

(Classes as usual)

Music, Singing & Movement! A session of fun and games to music - percussion instruments, nursery rhymes and action songs.



RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRD WATCH - Friday 24th January

(Classes as usual)

In support of the RSPB's Big Garden Bird Watch campaign the children will be making bird cakes in the run-up to the 24th January. We would appreciate any old yoghurt containers. Please go to the RSPB website for more information and to take part at home as well - <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS - Tuesday 28th & Wednesday 29th January

(Classes as usual)



Photographer Zelda will be in school these days to take individual photos of the children. More information to follow.



Adverse Weather Policy: Information



Procedures used in the decision to close Sunnylands Nursery School in the event of adverse weather conditions.

A decision to close the school would never be taken lightly and would involve all staff members.

1. A decision will be made, as far as possible, before 8.30am as to whether the school should be open or needs to be closed.
2. Parents will be sent a message on Seesaw.
3. In the event of closure, the school will send a message to Cool FM/BBC Website/BBC NI News using a prearranged security code to allow them to broadcast the information to the general public.

CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING

If you have any problems or concerns about your child please don't hesitate to speak to your teacher.

Mrs S Morrow
Principal