

Thank you ...

The children are settling well and have been busy making new friends, exploring the learning areas and being creative. Thank you to all parents for your support as we work together to settle each class into Nursery. We realise that the Induction process can pose difficulties for childcare and pick-ups, however we tailor it to make sure that it gives the children the best possible opportunity to settle fully into Nursery life.

We have been making the most of any dry weather we have had by playing outside as much as possible. It has been a lovely start to the new school year and we are excited for all the lovely times that lie ahead this year.

Sickness

We have had a number of children off Nursery with various infections over the past couple of weeks. This is to be expected at this time of the year, with the prevalence of upper respiratory and stomach illnesses in the community, coinciding with children mixing together in Nursery.

To help us prevent the spread of these, please allow your child to stay at home to recover. There are certain illnesses that require a prescribed time away from Nursery, as detailed in PHA guidelines. It is therefore important that you let us know, either by phonecall or via Seesaw, when your child is ill, so we can advise on exclusion periods, as necessary.

Reporting a Safeguarding Concern / Nursery School Policies

Now that most parents are connected to Seesaw, I will be sending out more detailed versions of our policies to expand on the leaflets you received in your child's Induction Pack. These are also available on our website, in the Documents section under the 'Policies' tab.

I have sent through our flowchart for making a report of a safeguarding concern today. If you have any queries about this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Theme -

Our theme for October is '**Autumn In the Woods**'

This month we will be exploring the animals and trees and plants that live in the woods and how the seasonal changes affect them. We use stories and rhymes to talk about the nights getting darker and the weather getting colder. It is also Harvest Time on the farm and we have lots of real fruit and vegetables incorporated in our play. We will be having a taster session of lots of different fruits at snack time. You will hopefully see lots of natural materials and objects in pictures of our play this month. The children will be digging in compost for vegetables, looking at seeds using a magnifying glass and sorting fruit and vegetables for type and colour, using their senses to talk about their textures and smells.

Stories – We will be reading the Usbourne Farmyard Tales series of stories this month, as well as 'A squash and a squeeze', by Julia Donaldson, 'On the Farm' by Anna Milbourne and 'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell. Other favourites include 'The Gruffalo', 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'.

Please look out for some of these stories online or at the library with your child!



Colour –

This month we will be talking about Autumnal colours – **red, yellow, brown** and orange-**orange** will be our focus colour, so please look out for **orange** objects in their environment.

Parent / Teacher Meetings

We look forward to talking with you all during the week beginning Monday 21st October, to discuss how your child has settled into Nursery and their progress to date. We will give parents the opportunity to receive a phone call from your child's class teacher.

We will send home more information about these next week via Seesaw.

Pick Up Times

Please ensure that you arrive on time to pick up your child at the end of their session. Late pick-ups can be distressing for your child and can cut down very precious planning and preparation time for Nursery staff. Thank you!

Payment of Nursery Fund / School Dinners

Thank you to all of you who have made Nursery fund payments so far. We would ask that as many parents as possible use the bank transfer or standing order methods for payment of this, to minimise the amount of cash that is coming into school. Nursery fund is £5.00 per week and is payable on a Monday.

Payment for dinners for children in the Full Time Class begins when your child starts staying for dinners. Parents of children in yellow class should have received a note about this via their child's home box last week.

Change of Clothes

If you haven't done so already, please ensure that you send in a change of clothes for your child that can be used as necessary in Nursery. **These items stay in your child's bag on their peg.** Please remember to *name all items* and replace items that are used when incidents that require a change of clothes occur! Please note the change of clothes does not have to be uniform!

Seesaw

We hope that you are enjoying the updates we are providing through the Seesaw app. Please use the app to contact us if you need to. Messages you send through the messaging tool to us are only seen by the teacher and yourself.

ETI Visit

Inspectors from ETI will be visiting Nursery on 14th -15th October. We would be really grateful if you could please complete the online questionnaires by scanning the QR Code or following the link.

Important dates –

Wednesday 16th October - Jo Jingles will visit during normal Nursery session

Week beginning 21st October – Parent / Teacher Consultations

Thursday 24th October – Big Bedtime Story event / Parents Education session
6.30pm, details to follow

Friday 25th October – Fruit tasting at snack time (during normal session times)

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November – Half-term holiday





Birthday Boys and Girls

Happy Birthday all of these special boys and girls who will be celebrating their birthday this month ...

Red Class – Emily
Olivia
Sofia

Blue Class – Erin

Yellow Class – Annais
Emmi
Lucas

Many Thanks for your continued support,
Pamela Muir - Principal

