



NEWSLETTER 16th APRIL 2018

Welcome back everyone - we hope you all had a relaxing Easter break! Here's some news for the coming half term.

Welcome to Emelia and Jasper who join us this term.

Term dates

Summer term: (13 weeks)

Monday 16 Apr – Friday 25 May

Monday 4 June – Friday 20 July

Bank holiday Monday 7th May.

Autumn term 2018: (14 weeks)

Tuesday 4 Sept – Friday 19 Oct

Monday 29 Oct – Monday 17 Dec

Spring term 2019: (11 weeks)

Monday 7 Jan – Fri 15 Feb

Monday 25 Feb – Fri 29 March

Parent consultations

Our final organised consultations will run in the first week of July so we will send out a note after half term. If you have any questions about your child's progress in the meantime, please speak to your child's key person.

Transition to school

We will be arranging transition meetings with your children's' new schools next half term. Please can you make sure your child's key person knows what school your child is going to so we know which schools to contact.

Encouraging independence

We will be focusing on encouraging independence during this term, particularly for the school leavers. We will be expecting them to get themselves ready to leave – finding their own coats and bags and putting them on themselves, so things may take a little longer! You could help by also encouraging them to do the same at home.

Sound of the week

The letters/sounds we will be focusing on this half term are:

W/b 16 Apr – z for zebra

W/b 23 Apr – a for ant

W/b 30 Apr – b for bat

W/b 7 May - c/k for cat/kitten

W/b 14 May – d for dog

W/b 21 May – e for egg

Please encourage your child to bring something in each day beginning with the appropriate sound.

Music

This half term all the groups will be learning double letter jolly phonics sounds. The duck whistles were a great success last term so this term the children are going to start to learn to play the recorder. And as one of our topics this term is minibeasts the children will be singing songs all about mini beasts and creepy crawlies and dressing up as butterflies, bumble bees, ladybirds and caterpillars. Rebecca is looking forward to lots of fun.

Afternoon Pick up times

Just a reminder that normal pick up time is 3.45pm. We also have an early pick up slot of 3.15pm to enable you to pick up from other schools in one run. But this is a 5 minute slot and unless we know in advance that you require an early pick up, then your child will not be ready. So please let us know if you plan to pick up at 3.15pm. If you know you will want to do this every week, please let us know by email (please do this again even if you did it last term). If you want to do it ad hoc, please can you write it in the going home book on a day by day basis

Topics

The first two weeks of this half term will be "Jungle animals"; the following two weeks will be "minibeasts"; the final two weeks will be "Summer / the seaside".

Visit from Cherry Trees – Wed 18 April

The charity we are supporting this year is Cherry Trees respite care in Clandon. Their Community Fundraising Officer is coming in to talk to the children about disability. This will be aimed at young children and will focus on "difference" and how we can help each other. She will be coming in around 10am on Wed 18 April - and any parents who want to come along are more than welcome.

Spare clothes

Temperatures are set to rise this week so we will be getting the water tables out. Could you please bring in some spare NAMED clothes for your child.

We have very limited spares, particularly for the older children.

Useful items

For the home corner, we would really appreciate an old home phone and a mug tree if anyone has spares.

Extra sessions

Please let us know if you want to increase your sessions at all, especially if you are not yet using all of your Free Entitlement.

Invoices / Free Entitlement forms

You will have had an invoice for the term and, for eligible children, forms to claim your Free Entitlement (FEE). If you have any questions about your bill or the FEE please speak to Susan. All FEE form must be returned by Friday 27th April

Parents Lunch club

A group of parents operate a "lunch club" whereby they take turns to cook/prepare the packed lunches for the children in the club. They have a wonderfully varied menu. A leaflet advertising the benefits of the lunch club together with a sample menu is attached separately to this email. They would love some new members, especially for September.

If you are interested in joining in, please contact Elisenda (Ramon's Mum):

ebonet.carne@gmail.com

Whatsapp on: +34 607 730 687

Phone number (no whatsapp): 07478778881

Why don't you give it a try and see what you think



Sports Day – Monday 9th July (Provisional)

We hope to be able to use St Nic's field for our Sports Day and will confirm arrangements nearer the date.

Tax Free Childcare

Working parents are eligible to register for this Government scheme, which operates along the same lines as childcare voucher schemes. Here's a link to find out more information.

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/>

We are registered as a childcare provider so you will be able to pay your fees this way if you choose to do so.

30 hours free childcare

Any parents who think they may be eligible next term need to apply this term via:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Summer social

We traditionally have a summer social to raise money for our nominated charity (this year it is Cherry Trees). In previous years it has been hosted by a parent. If anyone would like to offer to host, please let us know, otherwise Thea will host it at hers. It will be the same format as last year and at Christmas at Thea's house i.e. bring a bottle and a £5 donation in return for a pleasant evening of socializing!

Parking - important

We are only allowed to use the spaces marked in white. Please can you make sure you do not use the contract spaces which are marked in yellow. We have been threatened with losing parking rights if parents continue to use the contract bays. Please do not use them!!

Holidays

Please can you let us know if you have any holidays planned during term time. This is especially important for the school leavers as we need to make sure we have all your files and scrapbooks completed in time for when you leave.

Names

The usual reminder to name everything – we are still getting lots of unnamed items. It really does make life tricky for the staff.

Snacks / Lunches /Drinks

Please remember to bring a named water bottle; a piece of fruit each day (to be put in the fruit box); a packed lunch; an afternoon snack for those staying for the afternoon. **No nuts of any kind please.**

We like to promote healthy eating with the children so would appreciate your help in providing healthy snacks and packed lunches. It is not necessary to avoid all sugars and fats – they are necessary for growing children in the right proportion. But processed foods with lots of added salt and sugar – such as sweets, crisps and cakes etc - are not encouraged.

Useful links

Surrey Family Information Service – has lots of information on a range of issues eg education, childcare, support services.

<http://new.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/family-information-service>

In particular they have a useful booklet on "Getting Ready for School":

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/family-information-service/publications-for-families/getting-ready-for-school-booklet>

Also, Surrey Children's Therapies which has lots of information on Speech and Language therapy, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy resources.

<http://www.surreychildrenstherapies.co.uk/>

Surrey CC Early Years and Childcare Service have developed some lovely leaflets to provide parents with useful information on how you can support your child's development. They cover speech, reading, counting, physical development, emotional development etc. and are well worth a look.

<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/family-information-service/education-and-learning-advice-for-families/early-learning>

Thea and Susan