

# Early Years Newsletter

September 2017



## **Welcome!**

Welcome to all of the new children and your families. We have enjoyed the first few weeks settling in and getting to know each other. All of the children have settled in well to school life and are making some great relationships with their peers and teachers. We have seen some wonderful examples of play, taking turns, and working collaboratively together. The children have really valued each others ideas and opinions, it has been truly lovely to observe and play alongside them.

## **Tinkering**

Do you have any old, unwanted electrical appliances that the children can investigate and take apart in our tinkering area? The children are enjoying this area and are continually developing their fine motor skills while using the screwdrivers

## **School website.**

Please keep an eye on our school website. [www.fishergateschool.com](http://www.fishergateschool.com) as we are continually updating our learning area with children's work and achievements as well as their current interests. We also put on the website what we are learning about every week in phonics and maths, so for those of you that don't get to come in or have time to chat - you can still see how you can be supporting your child at home.

## **Wednesday's**

On a Wednesday morning before the start of the school day we have our Early Years team meetings. Occasionally these may over run slightly and it may be a bit later than 8:30am that the door opens. Please bare with us, thank you.

Every week on Wednesday mornings we go to our Forest School (located on the school's back field). Please can your children come ready in their waterproofs and welly boots, we go out whatever the weather!

Wednesday afternoons is PE and music. PE kit should contain: \*Plain t-shirt (white, navy, red), \*Shorts/leggings/jogging pants (white, navy, black, red), \*White socks, \*Plimsolls/trainers.

### **Safeguarding**

Our ultimate aim is to safeguard and keep our children in Early Years protected at all times. Only DBS checked staff and volunteers can be left alone with children. All visitors and placement students are supervised at all times. We let the children attend the bathroom on their own to promote their independence and confidence. As part of our continued policy updates we are asking that any parents/carers taking children to the toilet could stand outside of the bathroom and respect the privacy of all other children. Please speak to any of the Early Years staff if you have any queries or questions regarding this.

The NSPCC have some good resources online for you to talk about keeping safe with your children. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule>. In school we continually talk about making sure that children know to go into a toilet cubicle alone, and keeping the area covered by their pants/knickers private to themselves.

### **www.espresso.co.uk**

This is a useful educational website that we sometimes use in school but can also be accessed at home with the following login details; espresso username: student24256 password: pupilfp. Once logged in then you are given access to a number of phonics and maths games/challenges. If you have any queries or questions regarding this then please speak to Mr Deakin.

### **Learning from home**

We love to hear about all the fantastic things that your child does out of school. Feel free to bring in any pictures and achievements so we can share them with everybody in our class and add to our 'learning from home' board. This then contributes to your child's learning journey book, which is yours to take and treasure at the end of their time in the Early Years Unit. We have some Golden Moments sheets for you to document special moments, please help yourself to fill out and return to the Learning from home box in the large classroom.

### **Rewards.**

We are continually trying hard to reinforce good behaviour in the Early years unit and reward them generously! You may have heard your children talking about Dojo's...well these are points that each of the children receive for following our good behaviour rules; being kind, sharing, good work etc. When a child reaches 20 points and every 10 more after, they get to have a dip in the treat box! We also have Head teacher's Awards, a child will receive one of these for exceptional work or behaviour. Our Head teacher's celebration is Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. There are odd times however when punishment is needed, and this is when we follow our 'Good to be Green' behaviour chart - please see attached information.

### **Things you may need to know!**

- PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE label all of your child's clothing - including all footwear - first name and surname and keep checking that it hasn't faded after washing. All items of unnamed clothing will go into the early years lost property bucket and then transferred to the KS1 lost property box every Monday which is situated in the lower hall.
- Please do not let your children bring their own toys/comforters into school. It is causing a lot of distress for them and others when they go missing or another child takes it.
- Your child does not require to bring in their own snack from home, we provide a healthy snack and a carton of milk for each child, every day.
- If your child is absent from school it is mandatory for parents to phone the school's absence line, leave a message stating your child's class and the reason for their absence. If your child is vomiting or has diarrhoea then your child will need to stay away from school for 48hrs from the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea as per our school sickness policy. &
- We are a **NUT FREE** school. This is due to some pupils in school having nut allergies. Direct or indirect exposure to nuts can cause an acute - sometimes life threatening - allergic reactions. As such we remind you that nut products are not to be brought into school. This includes items brought in for packed lunches, snacks or treats. Please be vigilant as many brunch/chocolate bars contain peanuts, hazelnuts and almonds. Thank you very much in advance for your cooperation.
- We know that some parents are new to 'school life' and the general routine. If there is anything you ever need to know or you have any questions/queries please do speak to a member of the Early Years Team or Helen/Emma in the school office.

**We thank you for your full support with helping,  
ensuring that all the children settle well into  
school.**