

Early Spring Term 2019

Newsletter

I have added some information below regarding this half term and next half term. Please take a few moments to have a look through.

Staffing Changes

Kerry started with us this half term in the preschool room, working alongside Vicky. Kerry has settled in well and you will be seeing her face more at the door. The children have enjoyed having a new face around.

Outdoor and Spare Clothing

Please continue to send your child to preschool with suitable outdoor clothing. Including a coat, wellies and hat, the weather can become slightly unpredictable over Spring, but it is best to be prepared for all weathers as we continue to spend time outside.

Additionally, please send your child to preschool with a bag containing spare clothing. This is for both the toddler room and preschool rooms and each child will require slightly different things. Also, we love messy play at preschool and so having a spare pair of clothes allows the children to play with no inhibitions about getting messy as there isn't always the chance to put on an apron.

Snow Day Closure Procedure-Reminder

Hopefully we will not get any snow this year with us moving into spring but here is a reminder of our snow policy in case we need it!

It may be necessary on occasions to close the setting for the safety of the children, families, and the staff. Currently all our members of staff live in Whitby and so can be challenging for us to get into the setting if the roads are not in a good condition. Additionally, we do not want families trying to travel to get to us if we are open and risk having an accident. It is for these reasons that we may make the decision to close.

On the morning we will decide on whether to open preschool or not. This will be after speaking to people in the village and the surrounding area to gauge the road conditions. To inform families we will send an email (text if possible) or write a status on our Facebook page.

We aim to make this decision by 7:30am so that parents can make suitable childcare arrangements if we are closed.

If Fylingdales primary School closes, then we close in line with this. This may be slightly different at the moment with them joining with Hawsker School. There also may be an

occasion where they are open and we still close if our circumstances are different such as not having enough staff available.

If we open and the weather changes during these opening hours, we will immediately inform parents to come and collect their children. We aim to have the setting closed within 30 minutes for the safety of everyone. We realise this may be inconvenient for families and so if we think this is a risk during the day then we are unlikely to open from the start of the day.

Thank you for your understanding with this.

World Book Day

We will be celebrating world book day at preschool on Thursday 3rd March. As part of this please bring in your child's favourite book and can dress up as a character if they would like. We have lots of dressing up clothes at preschool so please don't feel as though you must buy something new.

Red Nose Day

On Friday 18th March we will be taking part in Red Nose Day! We have lots of exciting activities planned and will keep you informed of these nearer the time, please look out for an email or Facebook post after the half term!

Invoices

I have sent out the invoices for Late Spring Term 2022. If you have not yet received this, please let me know. All invoices are due on your child's first session back after the half term. Details of how to pay are located on the bottom of your invoice.

If you have any queries regarding your invoice, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Booking confirmations

For summer term

I have started to send out booking confirmation forms for you to confirm your hours for summer term (25th April onwards). You do not need to do anything until you have the booking confirmation form as hours for next half term are already set.

The preschool room has limited availability with waiting lists on some days, where the Toddler Room is a bit more flexible, so please consider this if/when changing your child's hours. As changing a day will likely result in you not being able to change back until September at the earliest.

For those beginning their funding in the summer term we have already spoken with you to confirm your hours.

3&4 year old- 15 hour funding

For Summer term

For those children who have just turned (or are turning 3) before the start of the summer term (beginning Monday 25th April) they will automatically receive 15 funded hours. We will have already discussed this with you and booked in your child's hours beginning in the summer term. You do not need to do anything further at this time, we will send you a parental agreement form to sign at the beginning of the summer term to give us permission to claim the hours on your behalf.

For those who are already accessing the 15 hours funding you do not need to do anything further. We will send you a parental agreement to sign at the start of the summer term to give us permission to claim the hours.

Extended entitlement (30 hours funding)

For Summer term

Please could all parents who are currently accessing this additional funding ensure that they have reconfirmed their codes. This needs doing every 3 months to ensure you are able to continue to access the funding. If you do not do this and the code runs out there is nothing we can do to continue the funding for the rest of the term, so it is really important you do this.

To reconfirm your code, you need to log into your childcare account. You should receive an email near the time of reconfirmation so please keep up to date with this.

If you think you may be eligible for the additional funding, please apply and if successful send us your code and National Insurance Number for us to verify. This needs doing before the summer term and we will try to accommodate hours where possible but spaces are becoming very limited.

Please visit the childcare choices website for more information.

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

Unfunded Week

Week commencing Monday 23rd June 2022

We have been informed by county that there will be 2 weeks where we will not receive funding. This means week Commencing Monday 23rd June 2022 will be a paid week for funded children. You can choose to bring your child this week for their full hours which they are booked in for, reduce hours to shorter sessions or you can choose not to bring your child. I will send out a form nearer the time for parent/carers to complete. The second unfunded week we will honour to cover training days/bank holidays/snow days which are usually still paid days.

Open Day

Saturday 5th March we are holding an Open Day 10:30am-2pm for new parents and children to come and look around the setting. We would really appreciate your help to spread the word. I has been advertised on our Facebook page so please feel free to share it. We are looking at arranging a second Open Day for current parents, a date is to be confirmed.

Danceathon - Fundraising

During this last week of half term the children and staff have been involved in our fundraiser, a sponsored Danceathon! We are hoping to raise £1,000 towards improvements to preschool!

Due to Covid restrictions we have not been able to hold many big fundraising events that would usually help with cost toward developing and improving the setting, so we need to boost our fundraising pot! The children have been dancing for the minimum of 12 minutes a day Monday to Friday to achieve one hour of dancing! The children have really danced there socks off!

Please visit and share our just giving page which is located below (and on our Facebook page).

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/dena-bagi?utm_id=2&utm_term=yabMyPZda

Thank you to those who have brought sponsor money in so far.

Covid-19

Please ensure you remain vigilant regarding Covid-19 symptoms, isolating, testing over the half term break. We return from Monday 28th February so please report any positive cases that have occurred then. I still need to report positive cases of children and staff even if they do not affect the setting. If you are unsure of return dates after a positive covid case, please do not attend the setting until you have spoken with me or NHS Test and Trace.

If anyone has any queries about the above, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will check the preschool emails as and when I can over the holidays.

All staff will be testing before they return after half term.

Links with parents

I know current guidelines are restricting parents /carers from dropping off and collecting inside Preschool, if any parents/carers would like to discuss anything face to face or via phone either with myself or your child's key person this can be arranged. Please feel free to contact me, I am always happy to help.

Please feel free to share what your child has been up to over half term by posting on your child's Tapestry. We love to see what the children are involved with in their homelife and talk to them about at Preschool.

Term Dates and events for your diary-2019

We return for Late spring term on Monday 28th February 2022

World Book Day- Thursday 3rd March 2022

Red Nose Day- Friday 18th March 2022

We break up for the Easter holidays on Friday 8th April 2022

Monday 25th April- Training Day

We return for Early Summer Term on Tuesday 26th April 2022

We are closed for Bank Holiday on Monday 2nd May 2022

We break up for half term on Friday 27th May 2022

We return for Late summer term on Monday 6th June 2022

We close for the summer holidays on Friday 22nd July 2022

