

# Welcome to St George Preschool's term 1 Newsletter

## Daily Routine.

The children enjoy free flow play for the majority of the day exploring both inside and outside. We try to have few interruptions to their play. They are offered fruit, a carb and a drink of either milk or water at 09:45. This is during freeflow play and children are reminded that snack is available, they are able to choose not to access it. Lunch is at 11:45 until approximately 12:30, children are encouraged to eat their lunch and have access to water. Following lunch children are able to freely play both inside and outside until 14:30 when they enjoy circle time with their adults and peers.

## Lunches

Our hot lunches are provided by Early Years catering and cost £3.00 per day, they are ordered and paid for termly in advance. A copy of the current menu is available on our website, including dietary alternatives. If you provide your child a packed lunch, please can you ensure that their lunch box and drinks bottle are labelled. Please can you cut grapes, olives, or tomatoes longways to avoid choking. We do encourage the children as much as possible to eat their savoury option first and will send home any uneaten food and packaging so you can monitor how much your child is eating. We politely remind you not to pack any chocolate bars or sweets. **We are a nut free environment.**

## Fruit donations

We appreciate weekly donations of fruit / plain rice cakes / bread sticks. This supports us financially and will enable us to continue to not introduce a charge for snack.

## Tapestry

You should have all received an email with a link to access your child's learning journal. If you have not received it, please can you see Sharon, Becky or Gillena at drop off / collection. During week 1 and 2 we will share your child's experiences through an observation. If you and your child are doing something exciting at home, it would be lovely if you could add an observation onto tapestry for your child to share with us. We will also add our termly core book for you to share with your child at home.

## Invoices

You should have received an invoice for sessions / lunch via your tapestry account. If you have not yet been able to access / locate the invoice, please speak to Sharon at drop off / collection or call on 01179554271.

## Key Person

Your child will have been assigned a key person, if you would like to speak to them at drop off, please either call on 01179554271 or ask Sharon, Becky or Gillena at the gate and we will try to make them available. All staff are available at end of day just let them know you would like a word. If you could wait until the majority of the children have been collected the keyperson will be able to give you their full attention.

## Label everything!

To help us identify your child's belongings we ask can you please label their bags, lunch boxes, coats etc.

## Toilet training

If you are toilet training, please bring in a named bag with spare clothes, wet wipes and **plenty of pants and socks!** We are happy to apply nappy cream, if your child is sore and you have signed to give us permission.

## Socks

We have completely run out of spare socks, if you have any that you could donate that would be appreciated.

## **Term 1 Dates**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September until Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October. **Preschool will be closed to children on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October for an inset day.**

## **Inset Days**

In September 2021 the government made changes to the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. The focus is very much on staff spending quality time interacting with children very little time capturing and recording their learning. Our inset days are spent as a whole team discussing each child individually. We will be looking at their starting point and ensuring that they are developing both socially and academically. All of the children's learning is taught and extended during their play, when a child chooses their own activity, they are fully engaged and ready to learn.

## **Outside everyday regardless of weather**

Our children can go outside for most of the day, as it becomes colder, we ask that you layer them to help them to keep warm. We provide them with welly boot's, fleeces, waterproof trousers / jackets, hats & gloves.

## **Reporting an absence**

If your child is unwell or unable to attend, please can you either call or email so that we can accurately record your child's attendance. If the telephone is unanswered, please leave a message & someone will call you back as soon as possible. Please avoid calling at 8:45, lunchtime & 14:45 as it is unlikely anyone will be in the office to take your call. Please remember that if your child has been off with sickness / diarrhoea they must stay home for at least 48 hours following last episode. If your child has been ill enough for you to administer calpol or ibuprofen they are too ill for preschool.

## **Drop off / collection**

All children are left at the entrance gate, we feel that this enables all of the children to settle much quicker into their preschool day. At collection time you are able to come onsite to collect your child. We ask that you enter through the parent's room, collect your child's belongings (and artwork) from their peg then go into either Oaks or Acorns room and collect your child. If you would like a quick chat about their day or ask questions, we ask that you wait until most of the children have been collected so that we can ensure every child is safe during this time. **We operate a 1-way system please enter through the parent's room and leave via the patio door in your child's room. Please ensure that your child is collected promptly at 11:45 or 14:45. We do have a late collection policy which includes a charge for late collection.**

## **Oak's children - School applications for reception class September 2024**

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 you need to apply for a reception school place. You need to apply by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2025. You can apply online using the link below.

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/schools-learning-and-early-years/school-admissions/primary-admissions/primary-apply>

Becky is happy to help you to complete your application online.

## **Book Lending Library**

We have a book lending library at the front of the building it has books for all ages. Please help yourself....

## **Take me home rail**

We have a take me home clothes rail in the parent's room, please help yourself. We appreciate any donations of children's clothing.

## **Toy & Puzzle lending**

We have some toys and adult puzzles in the parent's room, please help yourself, we appreciate any donations.