

Newsletter September 2023



Friday 20th October – Last Day of Term

Monday 23rd October – Half Term

Monday 30th October – First Day of Term

Friday 15th December – Last Day of Term

Tuesday 2nd January – Closed – Training

Wednesday 3rd January – First Day of Term



19th October – Parents Evening. More details to follow.

Week commencing 13th November – Nursery Rhyme Week

14th November - AGM

17th November – Children in Need
Dress up in your Pj's or something

Welcome

A warm welcome to all of our new families and to those returning to us. We hope that you have all had a wonderful summer. Please share any special moments that you had during the holidays by posting your pictures in tapestry.

The next couple of weeks we will be focusing on getting to know our new children and their families and resettling our returning children.

To help us get to know each other, at group time we will have lots of circle games, to help us learn our peers and adults names. There will be lots of activities based on The Colour Monster story, to help support our understanding of our emotions.

With the weather continuing to stay warm we have been making the most of our amazing garden and enjoying lots of water play.

We have lots of exciting things planned for the children to enjoy over the coming term. Our sponsored event will take place in October and will be based around Autumn. On Wednesday 1st November, we are hoping to have a walk over to Beggarwood Park, where we will continue our learning of Autumn - More details to follow – If you are free on this day and able to join us we are always grateful for any help. Please speak to Kelli.

Week Commencing 14th November is Nursery Rhyme Week. This year's nursery rhymes are: Jack and Jill, Hickory Dickory Dock, Row Row Row Your Boat, The Wheels on the Bus and Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes. We will have lots of fun activities based around these rhymes which will support children's learning and development.

The children can come along dressed in their favorite dress up outfits for the week and join in the fun, if they wish.

We will also be taking part in Children in Need. On Friday 17th November, the children are invited to wear anything spotty/pudsey related or their pyjamas.

Lunch Time

In a bid to encourage healthy eating patterns from an early age, our recommendation is for no more than 3 items, for example, a small sandwich, a yoghurt and some fruit to be in their boxes.

We do not permit nuts due to allergies. No peanut butter or chocolate spread containing hazelnuts or Hummus in lunchboxes and please ensure all snack bars are nut free.

Please ensure that if you are using seeded bread for your child's sandwiches that it does not contain sesame.

We also request that no raw or cooked egg should be included in your child's lunch box. We do appreciate that this can be difficult particularly in cakes and biscuits therefore if your child's lunch box does contain items with cooked egg in please notify us.

Things to remember

If your child is showing any symptoms such as temperature, upset tummy or generally feeling unwell and you feel that they may need calpol or other medication please do not send them into preschool. If your child requires any form of medication at home can you please ensure you update us even if this is a short course of antibiotics.

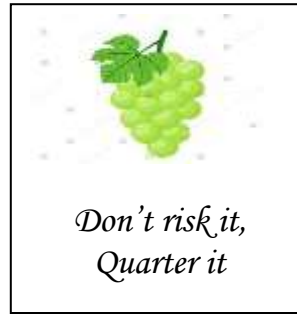
Please don't forget to inform us if anyone else is going to be picking your child up from pre-school. We will require a password.

Parent Parking: unless you have permission from St Mark's, please can we ask that you do not park in the school car park.

Please remember to label children's coats, jumpers, wellies, lunch bags, drink bottles etc.

Foyer – our foyer is open at the start and end of the day. Please do come in and we will open the internal door at the appropriate time. We do ask that parents enter the foyer to collect their child.

Art Trays – these are located in the foyer, please do check them regularly.



Communication

Correspondence to parents is submitted via Tapestry with notifications displayed on our Notice Board outside of the setting. Tapestry is a wonderful tool which enables us to share information with you and also for you to share with us. We love to see what you get up to with your little ones so please share your pictures.

We do have a closed Facebook Page as well as a marketing page. Please do check if you are on the closed group, this is set up just for parents of attending children.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1158067937547622> Dandelions community pre-school

We operate an open-door policy. Please should you have any questions do come and see Kelli or your child's keyperson.

The Dandelions Committee

Dandelions is run by a management committee, made up of a small group of trustees. They play such an important and crucial role in the existence of Dandelions.

As a charity, we need to have a minimum of 60% of our committee made up of existing parents. This is where we need you.

Our AGM will be held in November (date to be confirmed). Due to children leaving us to transition to school, we are losing some trustees. We are therefore looking for parents that may wish to join us and play a vital role in the future of Dandelions.

We value the contribution of your time and skills, as they are essential ingredients to the settings continued success.