

Nursery Weekly News

17.7.23



We hope you have had a good weekend despite the weather. We are finding it hard to believe this is our last week together! We are planning to give the children as much choice as possible about what they would like to do this week and provide as many fun activities as we can.

Last week the children were starting to think about summer holidays and all the things associated with it. We talked about this school holiday being a longer one and all the kinds of things we might do, including going on journeys. This week we will be focussing more on activities related to sports and health.

Following the visits last week, the children seem much more settled about changes ahead and I'm sure everyone will have a very successful transition to school. This week we have included a few tips for all those starting school in September.

As well as saying fond farewells to those moving on to school, we are delighted that in September we will be welcoming back our children who started in the Spring. If these children need more uniform there are second-hand polo shirts, sweatshirts, and fleeces available at Nursery. We would be very grateful for any donations of second-hand uniform from the children moving on. We will send home wellies this week. Don't forget to bring wellies back to school in September, both for Nursery children and Reception. Please remember to clearly name new uniform and wellies.

Thank you for bags for the children to bring home some of their work. The children moving onto school will bring home an exercise book. There are some Read, write inc. sheets, one with the pictures on and a letter formation sheet with the ditties that help the children remember the direction to take when writing letters. There is also a formation sheet that shows where to start and finish each letter and plenty of space in the book for any writing the children want to do. The children are welcome to bring these back with them in September to show their new teacher their efforts.

Although the children have started to look tired over the last few weeks, we have also been able to notice just how much progress they have all made. The Reception teachers were very impressed with them last week. We do our best to give the children a good start to their learning journey, but we couldn't succeed without all the wonderful support from parents.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the wonderful times we have spent with your children, we have loved getting to know them, teaching them, and learning from them. Thank you to you all for helping to make our job such an enjoyable one.

We hope that the children's time at nursery has not only helped them develop readiness for school, but also given them some magical moments, and played a small part in making them the wonderful little people they are.

Have a fantastic fun-filled summer together!

Best wishes

Ellie Green & Kelly McIlroy



Top tips for getting prepared for school (for all those starting school in September)

Tip 1: Read – Don't forget visits to the library. Keep up sharing books over the holidays it's a wonderful way to develop talk and ideas.



Tip 2: Make sure your child gets enough sleep – Children need their rest to perform well at school and cope with lots of new learning. Bedtimes might not be so strict over the summer, but it is worth starting to reset body clocks a fortnight before school starts. Start moving bedtime forward a bit each night and have more structured set mealtimes that will match those the children will have when they are at school.

Tip 3: Emphasise the positive – Mention school positively but resist the temptation to over-hype 'big school'. It's better to play it down and give your child confidence that they will cope well and enjoy it. As children have been to Nursery, you can paint big school as just a small step up. Encourage children to continue developing their skills and independence but avoid telling them they will struggle at school if they don't know how to do a particular task. Keep the mood positive.



Tip 4: Don't wear them out! - All children need down time; plenty of self-directed play, and unstructured time. When children start school, they may be tired and unable to cope with extracurricular activities for a while. Children will start to see that school becomes a main priority.

Tip 5: Practise - Many children can now write their name correctly, can count a group of objects, know their numbers to 10 or more, can recognise letter sounds and blend sounds to make words, know basic shapes and colours. This will make things easier for them and it's worth keeping up those skills. However, many children begin school still not mastering these skills, and will proceed quite happily and successfully to do so when ready. Children develop at different rates in different areas, so don't worry but continue to encourage skills with fun activities.



Tip 6: Preparation – Think about all the practical things like uniform, book bags, PE kit etc well in advance so that the start of school is as stress free as possible. Brainstorm lunch ideas with your child if they will have a lunchbox and talk about hot dinners. Talk through the lunch menu for the first week of school together. Making sure your child has everything they need will really help them throughout the year. Use the website and read newsletters to keep yourself informed. It helps you to feel more relaxed and avoid guilt ridden moments!

