



Term 1 Newsletter

A warm welcome!

The staff at Seashells Nursery would like to say a big, warm welcome to all our new starters this September; we hope you settle well and enjoy your time with us. We would also like to welcome back our children from last year; we haven't seen a lot of you in such a long time and we are really excited to be back together again.

Each child will be designated a key person. We will let you know who your child's key person is after the initial settling phase. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to us to arrange a phone call or send us an e-mail (nursery@herne-bay.kent.sch.uk) and we will do our best to resolve any issues or support your child and family.

New Safety Measures

Things in nursery are quite different to how they may have looked this time last year and in order to keep children, parents and staff safe we are implementing various changes and routines.

Some of these changes are as follows:

- It is the expectation that only 1 adult should bring and collect their child from the gate.
- Children will be dropped off at the Seashells gate and collected at the Arkley Road gate and separate from their parents or carers at this point (apart from initial settling for our new starters).
- Parents will be required to form a socially distanced queue outside the gate in the direction of Spencer Road.
- Parents are required to socially distance from other parents/adults and staff.
- If parents need to go in the nursery building, please wear a face covering.
- Children and adults will use sanitising gel upon arrival.
- Children will be encouraged to play outside.
- Children will be taught to wash their hands and will do this regularly throughout the day.
- There will be extra cleaning of frequently touched surfaces during each day.
- We advise that children get changed when arriving home and that these items are washed before they are worn again.
- Stories and singing sessions will be in small groups only.



- Children will each have their own named pot of Playdough (provided by nursery).
- We will rotate nursery resources daily.

PLEASE Send your child to nursery wearing clean clothes each day.

PLEASE do not send your child in to nursery if they have a temperature and phone the school office.

For the foreseeable future we will not be able to invite parents/carers in for events as we would have done previously. However, we will endeavour to share our nursery experiences with you via Twitter, the school website, regular child observations and by using Zoom for some events we have planned.

Our Busy Summer!

We have always enjoyed using our outside space, being outside is now more important than ever; so ...

Seashells staff have been busy over the summer developing the outside areas in nursery. This is still very much 'work in progress.' We have painted and moved things around to create some new areas.

We are working on a construction area, fairy garden, petting area, improving our mud kitchen, role play area, den building, an investigation shed and mini pond/dinosaur area.

If you have any unwanted 'fairies' or fairy houses at home, we would love to rehome them! If we have any creative parents or relatives, we would like to make a fairy garden like the one pictured below and would appreciate any help with this, we have the cable reels available in nursery.



Encouraging imaginative play!

Termly Topic

Our topics this term are 'All About Me' and 'Nursery Rhymes'. We will be finding out about our similarities and differences, our families, friendships and respect and kindness.

We will also be learning a selection of nursery rhymes over the term. You can help your child learn these at home too, in readiness for our sponsored performance at the end of term.

Topic stories

Each week we have a different topic-based story which we read to the children in small groups, tell in different ways, using toys or puppets and link role play or creative activities to the story. This term's stories include: *The Owl Babies*, *Dear Zoo*, *Peace at Last*, *Handa's Surprise*, *So Much; The Same But Different Too*.

Family Photos

We encourage children to talk about their families and home experiences. To help with this it would be great if you can let us have a family photo which we can keep in nursery for the children to look at and talk about. Especially this year when the children have been at home so much, having a photo of their family at nursery will be really helpful. Thank you.

Sing & Sign Sessions

Each week we have Cara who comes in and provides children with an opportunity to join in with a 'Sing & Sign' session, learning Makaton signing and many new, fun action songs.

Summertime Diaries – New Starters

Please send in your child's Summertime Diary, so they can share these with the nursery staff and

also tell other children about them. These diaries are fantastic for helping us to get to know your child and for them to gain confidence at nursery.

General reminders

Thank you to all parents and carers who have already supported us by donating £3 voluntary contribution each term. If you can contribute please do; this really helps towards playdough, cooking ingredients, topic books and additional resources each term. At this time, we ask that any donations are sent in with your child in an envelope. Thank you.

Things to remember:

- Write your child's name on **all** their belongings.
- Water bottles need to be **named** and taken home to be **washed** at the end of each day.
- Children will have the opportunity to play outside in all weather; appropriate clothing for rain and cold weather is essential!

***Thank you for your continued support.
The Seashells Nursery Team***

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- Term 1 finishes: Friday 23rd October
 - Term 2 starts: Weds 4th November
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