



Term 2 Newsletter

Welcome Back

We hope you have had an enjoyable half term and would like to welcome you all back. We have a fun-packed term planned and are looking forward to doing lots of exciting activities.

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to all our families for the amazing fundraising you did for our Nursery Rhyme Challenge last term. We hope you enjoyed watching the performances and photos. We are in the process of developing our outside area, the money raised will certainly help us with these developments.

The Gate

Thank you for your continued support regarding wearing masks at drop off and collection times. There were a couple of changes last term with

regards to the gate, just to clarify- parents are able to come up to the Seashells Gate upon drop off and children will be walked down to the main gate at Arkley Road for collection after their session. If your child has siblings who are also due to be picked up at (or around 3:15) we also do an earlier collection time of 2:45. Please let a member of staff know if this would be better for you and your child.

Planning & Evidence Me

Our weekly plans are now available on the school website, so that you can see what we will be covering in nursery each week, we will also try to include links to our stories and songs. This is also available to support parents should your child and family have to self-isolate at any point.

We hope you have been enjoying 'Evidence Me' and seeing what your child has been up to. It has been lovely to receive some great feedback and even a few observations from parents. If you have not yet got access to this, you should have been sent a link via e-mail (please check your junk folder too) and you should be able to set up an account. Any problems, please let us know.

Termly theme/topic

Our topics this term are 'Celebrations' and 'Winter Wonderland.' We will be finding out how different families and cultures celebrate



various festivals including Halloween, Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas. We will also investigate seasonal change and discuss places in the world with colder climates, animals and people in those environments.

Topic Stories

Each week we will focus some of our adult supported activities on a different topic-based story. The stories we will look at include:

Pumpkin Soup, the story of Rama and Sita, Room on the Broom, Stick Man, Dear Santa, Jesus' Christmas Party and Aliens Love Panta Claus.

Every day we also gather in our Key Groups to work on a focus task such as a number activity, learning about feelings, language skills and phonics.



Taking books home

The benefits of reading with young children can often be overlooked. Reading to your child can

help them develop across many areas, which include promoting an interest in books and the love of reading, language and vocabulary and an understanding of the world. We have books available in nursery which would have usually been part of our 'book swap', due to the current circumstances, we are unable to send items back and forth. We will continue to send books home with your child to read, which can then be kept or donated to a family member, friend or charity shop.

Celebrating Children's Birthdays

We love to celebrate the children's birthdays with them. Unfortunately, at the present time, we are unable to give out sweets or cakes from home (including un-opened shop bought items) for the children to share on their birthday. This is the policy across the school during the pandemic. We are still making the children's birthdays really fun at nursery, with a card and a small present from nursery which they can choose, as well as all gathering to sing Happy Birthday! We will be resuming cooking activities with the children this term, so when possible, the children will be baking sweet and savoury treats to share in nursery.

Family Photos

A big thank you to everyone who has sent in a photo of their family for the children to look at and talk about at nursery. These are being displayed on the wall in our Role Play Area so

that the children can look at them whenever they wish. If you would still like to send in a photo, please put it in your child's bag or email it to us at: nursery@herne-bay.kent.sch.uk
Thank you!

Donating Old Birthday Cards

If you have any old (used) birthday or Christmas cards at home, we would appreciate donations of these at nursery. Please cut off the picture side (that is blank on the back) and then the children can use these to practise their early writing / 'mark making' skills on the back. It is great for the children to have a purpose to get the idea about writing, such as writing a birthday card. To ensure these are safe to use in nursery, we will store them for at least one week, to ensure no possible virus transmission. Also, unused Christmas wrapping paper would be appreciated for the children's model-making and present wrapping activities!

General reminders

Thank you to all parents and carers who supported us by donating £3 last term. If you can contribute, please do; this really helps towards additional resources and the upkeep of our nursery pets. At this time, we ask that any donations are sent in with your child in an envelope. Thank you.

If you need to speak to us about anything, it may be difficult to catch us on the gate, but please do call or e-mail to discuss anything with us. Unfortunately, we are still not able to invite parents in for our events, please look out for letters, e-mails or text with information about our events and how to get involved.

Things to remember:

- Write your child's name on **all** their belongings.
- Check your child's bag for communication slips or letters home, at this time it is the only way of ensuring we keep updated/notify you of something.

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

Diary Dates

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- Individual Photos: Wednesday 4th November
 - Children in Need (dressing up in yellow or spots): Friday 13th November
 - Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children): Friday 11th December
 - Christmas Singing Filming: w/c 7th December
 - Christmas Parties: w/c 14th December
 - Term 2 finishes: Friday 18th December
 - Term 3 starts: Monday 4th January
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