



“This is a ‘Good’ school”
Ofsted - November 2015

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03 November 2016

Nursery Newsletter 2

Dear Parents,

Firstly, many thanks and well done to everyone for a great start to the nursery year. The children are now settled and ready to play and learn, and it has been a really smooth transition month! This allows us to plan and carry out some interesting events and activities!

Sunrise and tea time

The extended hours are working really well, and the children having a little quiet time and play before and after others have gone!

The team (at the moment, Lou, Lisa and Sharon) have been experimenting and working to create a tea-time menu. This involves cooking in our own kitchen, and the children have been trying pasta, home-made pizza and jacket potatoes, all served with carrot or cucumber sticks, salad or vegetables and yoghurts or fruit puree.

We will add £1.00 to the tea-time bill to cover the cost of the food. I hope you find this acceptable, but please do talk to me if there is a problem.

As before, the extended hours are included in the early years claim, and any first 15 hours of nursery time are free at the point of delivery. Pupil premium children will be able to have tea for free, but the session time needs to be a part of their funded hours, or be charged for.

Parents' evenings

We would like to offer you the opportunity to discuss your child's development and needs with your key person, with myself or with Vickie, our SENCo, on a number of sessions during this term:

Key workers will be available for ten minutes on the following dates – any further appointments will be arranged when the slots are full:

Vickie: Monday 14th, 1.30 – 3.10

Lou: Tuesday 15th, 1.30 – 3.10

Lisa: Thursday 17th, 1.30 – 3.10

Sharon: Friday 18th, 1.30 – 3.10

Corina: Monday 21st, 1.30 – 3.10

Anni: Wednesday 23rd, 2.30 – 3.30

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Please book a slot on the sheet inside the nursery door, or send me an email with a ten minute time slot and I will book you in.

We would like to invite you to attend two workshops about learning and development this term:

1. **Phonics** and how we help children start learning to read (how we put together listening, speaking, sounds and letters, stories and music, all towards helping children learn to read)
Tuesday 15th November, 7.30 – 9.00 mainly delivered by **Corina** with your help! This would be most suitable for parents of the school going cohort – but not only!
2. **Messy play** - sensory experiences and their place in children's development
Wednesday 23rd November, 7.30 – 9.00 mainly delivered by **Vickie**, again with your help!

As we prepare for these, and they contain hands-on experiences, we really need to know numbers and sometimes which children are represented. Please let me know by email if you intend to attend either or both of these. I will put a blank list on the door to sign for these too.

Sharing fireworks experiences

We are working on a broad learning journey of **light and dark**, and we know that lots of our children are involved in fireworks night in Lewes. If your child has a special costume for parading, and they would like to show their friends, we'd like to ask to bring them in one of their nursery days.

Early Years Nativity

This year we will be doing a Nativity play for Christmas, together with the two Reception classes, as a part of our Early Years Village work.

There will be two shows: Wednesday 14th December in the afternoon (around 2pm) and Thursday 15th December, 5pm. All children, included those who are not at nursery on those days and times, are invited. Any further details at a later time!

Sharing a story time

We would like to start helping and encouraging children to enjoy stories even more.

We would like to invite you in at 3.10 on Tuesday 8th, Friday 11th and Monday 14th to share a story time with us – come in, join your child on the carpet and listen to the story together. This is for the children who are already at nursery on those days. One of the most important things we are teaching the children is to listen quietly when a story is read or told, and only interrupt at appropriate places. Please support us with this – there can't be any conversation in the room during story time.

We may do a bigger story time event as the year goes by, but for now it is about the simple pleasure of listening together.

We will repeat these each term, and rotate the days so each child has a chance to have their parent join in.

We will help the children learn to choose a story to borrow and return too.

We would really like to encourage parents to buy a book bag for their child, to instil the habit of borrowing, reading (this includes making up a story from the pictures!) and looking after the book.

Book bags are now available from the PTA shop on Tuesday afternoons, but if you ask we can arrange to have some sold at nursery if you need to – let me know. They are £4.00. If you would like your child to have a book bag but the cost is an issue, let me know privately.

When the story is finished, please remember that there is an extended hours session for some children. Do help your child leave quietly and sensibly, and always ensure that the door is properly closed, as there are still children in the nursery.

Learning blog

Thank you for reading this – news on our current learning will be added tomorrow evening, including:

- Current work on Light and Dark (Halloween, Diwali, Fireworks night)
- Phonics and letters and sounds: sound of the week starting next week.
- Mark making and writing dos and don'ts.
- Tea time menu and photos.

<http://ringmernursery.co.uk/learning-blog.php>

twitter: @RingmerPrimary

school website: <http://www.ringmerprimary.school/home>

Many thanks to those of you who were at nursery last year, and gave me much support and necessary permissions for my MA dissertations. It is now complete (and passed!) and I will put a link to the dissertation on the website, as promised to those who asked.

Best wishes to everyone,

Corina and the team

Corina Gamble
Nursery teacher/Manager
Ringmer Primary and Nursery School