

September 2024

Dear Parents,

Hello and welcome to nursery! I am looking forward to getting to know you and your child and we have an exciting year ahead.

This half term our topic is 'Marvellous Me' and the children will be learning all about themselves and each other. This will also include learning about the local village, and we are planning to enhance this learning by taking the children on a learning walk to Derwent Valley Bridge Library. More details will be sent out about this nearer the time.

During the week, the children will have the opportunity to take part in P.E. sessions in the main school hall. These take place on a Thursday morning, and we ask that your child comes to school in sensible footwear and that girls wear leggings or trousers on this day.

Forest School activities take place throughout the week, but we have set sessions on a Wednesday afternoon, and we ask that you send a pair of wellies for these sessions. If possible, these should be left at nursery as we take advantage of the Forest School area whenever we can. Your child may get dirty during these sessions as they fully explore the outdoor learning environment.

From time to time on a Friday afternoon, we will include a food activity. This might be decorating a biscuit, making toast and scrambled egg, making fruit kebabs. These will be linked to our themes or they may be linked to an idea that the children have demonstrated in their play. Sometimes the children will bring home their creations and other times we will enjoy it in nursery. We ask for a voluntary contribution of £1.00 per half term to help cover the cost of this activity.

We have a friendly little bear in our nursery. He is called JOFLI, which stands for 'Journey of Life'. Each week, Jofli will be sent home with a different child for the weekend. We ask that you return Jofli the following week and complete his diary.

Again, this is an excellent opportunity for your child to develop their communication and language skills. If you have a specific event or holiday that you would like Jofli to attend, please let me know in plenty of time and we can hopefully arrange this.

In nursery, we want to celebrate all the wonderful things that your child has achieved at home. We have set up a WOW board to display all the great things that your child has done. For example, if your child has learnt to ride a bike for the first time or gone to bed well, tidied up their toys or even eaten their vegetables, you can share this with us. Please fill in one of our WOW certificates and let a member of staff know that it is in your child's book bag. We can then share these achievements in class and add them to our display.

The children will be given a sharing book in the first few weeks. Please use this book to help your child to tell us what they have been doing over the weekend or if there has been a special event throughout the week. This is a great opportunity for your child to develop good communication and listening skills.

All parents should have received an email invitation to join Class Dojo, please can you check that you have signed up as we will use this platform to communicate messages that are relevant to nursery.

The weather at this time of year can be very unpredictable and in nursery, we have continuous outdoor provision. Please can you make sure your child has a coat with them and as the weather turns more autumnal, hats and gloves will be useful. It may be that for the first few weeks your child may need a sun hat and sun cream, who knows what to expect!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to talk to approach myself or one of the nursery team and we will be happy to help you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Blackstone and the Nursery Team