



Fledglings Nursery

Ash, Cartwright & Kelsey CEP School

Newsletter for Term 1

September 2017

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to Fledglings

We would like to welcome all our children and their families back to another exciting term at Fledglings; bursting with learning opportunities and new challenges. We also welcome new children to our 'nest'. We will ensure we settle your child as quickly as possible into the setting and routines we follow. Any questions/concerns please ask. Your child has their own file for letters in the Fledglings foyer, please check this regularly as this is where important information will be passed on to you.

Staff and Keyworkers

Mrs Marsh is the teacher in Fledglings. Our wonderful, hardworking team of Fledglings' staff this term are **Julia, Barbara, Sarah and Davina**. At Fledglings, all children have a **keyworker** assigned to them who particularly plans, assesses and works with them to give each child the most individualised learning opportunities possible. Please see Key Person letter to see who your child has been assigned.

Home visits

For the children who are new to the setting, I am going to be offering home visits or an opportunity to have an appointment in school with myself and your child's key worker in week two (week beginning 11/9/17). Please see separate letter. If your child is not new to the setting but you would like an appointment - please speak to me so we can arrange one.

This Term's Learning Themes

This term our playing and learning activities will focus around the themes of '**Nursery Rhymes**' and '**Autumn**'. We will be singing lots of Nursery Rhymes and having lots of autumnal wellie walks! We will continue to follow the children's interests, as well as working on adult planned projects together. As always, we will be outside everyday and will continue with our daily visits to the school playground taking part in **bike groups (afternoons only- if your child attends the afternoon session they are welcome to bring their scooter or bike - please leave outside the Fledglings foyer), large playground activities, walks, field play and using the adventure playgrounds**, visits to the school **Nature Area** and of course plenty of other opportunities to be outside exercising and exploring the *Great Outdoors!*

Attached to the newsletter is a **short summary of how we plan in Fledglings**. Please ask if you have any questions - I thought the information would be interesting for you to read.

'Wow' moments

We would love to know all about the learning your child experiences at home. On the desk, by the children's pegs there are some cardboard stars - please feel free to take some home or write them in the setting, when your child has had a 'wow' moment - we will display these on the 'wow' board and then move the comments into to your child's learning journey book.

The remains of the Summer...

If we should have some warmer weather this term...

1. Sun screen - please can you ensure your child has a good coating of sun screen before they come to Fledglings for their session. If they stay with us all day and you would like your child's sun screen topped up at lunchtime, please can you send in a **named bottle of sun screen and complete the permission form. We cannot re-apply sunscreen without your consent on the permission form.** Copies by the children's files in the foyer.

2. Sunhat - Please remember to name your child's sunhat. We do have many spare hats and on the warmer days will ensure that every child wears a sunhat when outside.

3. Footwear - Please remember that even on hot days children need to wear safe and appropriate footwear to nursery. Crocs and flip-flop type sandals can be a trip hazard and not safe for running and climbing in.

4. Ice Packs - Please remember to use an icepack in your child's lunchbox to ensure the food stays fresh.

5. WATER - All the children have access to the water fountain at all times and a drink is served both at morning and afternoon fruit bar. Due to the importance of drinking enough water in the hot weather, we are asking you to bring a named **water bottle** into Fledglings each day, which can be put onto the tray by the door. We can then prompt all children to drink their water throughout the day. Please ensure bottles **ONLY** contain water - thank you.

The coming of Autumn

As the weather turns more autumnal please ensure your child has a jumper, coat, gloves and scarf with them. The doors in the setting are always open (unless there is a torrential down pour!) so the children will be able to access the garden at all time whatever the weather.

Nappies/Spare Clothes

Please can we ask that all parents continue to ensure (as far as they are able to) that their child is wearing a clean, dry nappy or pull up when they arrive for their session. We will then check each child's nappy at a couple of different times during the morning or afternoon. If the nappy is not soiled or too wet we will leave it. If it is very wet or soiled we will change it. Please can you send your child to nursery with a **set of spare clothes**, including socks, in case of any accidents. Please can these be **clearly named**. Thank you.

Jewellery

Please remember no jewellery is to be worn by children in the setting, in line for the school policy.

Lunchtime Reminders

If your child stays at Nursery for our Lunchtime session, can we please ask that you clearly **NAME their lunchbox** and any extra containers/drinks bottles that you send in so that we can be sure to give out the correct lunches and return them to you in one piece as well. Also, can we ask that if you send your child with grapes or cherries or any fruit around that size that you please cut it up at home beforehand to prevent a choking hazard for your child. Remember if you would like to order your child a school dinner they are **£2.30** and you need to tell us in the morning so we can order straight from the kitchen. Thank you.

End of the Day...

At the end of the day a member of Fledglings staff will be at the door to see children out from **3.15-3.30pm**. This is so that we link in with school times and that parents of school children are not hanging around at the end of the day waiting to collect children. Please try to ensure you are prompt to collect your child as we have our 'After School Club' waiting to use the room from 3.30pm. This time of the day can be hectic so if possible please could older siblings wait in the reception just before the gate to ensure we hand the children over safely. Many thanks for your cooperation in this.

School Website

Please note that all parents are invited to subscribe to the school website, where you can receive our newsletter via email, and other school and nursery information. The website address is www.ashckschool.org Please click on 'school life', then 'classes' and choose 'Fledglings'.

Family photo

We have a display in the setting of each child with their family. If you didn't provide a photo last academic year, please can you give me a photo of your child with their family, so I can display it - thank you.

Baking

We regularly cook in Fledglings and are extremely excited that the school PTFA have just donated the money for us to buy our own oven! When we bake we always share the food at snack time or send the item home for your child to eat. All the children have the opportunity to bake and it is such a great way for your child to learn. **We are asking for a voluntary donation of £2 a term per child to help us purchase all the ingredients that we need - please put the donation into an envelope and hand to me at registration time - many thanks!**

Finally, ...

Many thanks for taking the time to read this information; we really do appreciate your comments and feedback so please feel free to see any of the Fledglings team if you have a question.

We look forward to another busy, fun-filled term ahead of us!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Marsh and all the staff at Fledglings

Key Dates:

Home visits - afternoons - Monday 11th September to Thursday 14th September 2017

Autumnal festival - more details to follow - Wednesday 18th October 2017 time tbc

Sponsored walk - Tuesday 10th October 2017 - more details to follow

Last day of Term 1 - Friday 20th October 2017

First day of Term 2 - Monday 30th October 2017

Stay and play - Monday 30th October to Thursday 2nd November - more details to follow

Last day of Term 2 - Wednesday 20th December 2017

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Planning in Fledglings

To plan our exciting learning days in Fledglings we plan using the 'Development Matters in the Early Years Foundation Stage' document.

The two-year olds in the setting take part in all activities but we focus is on the three Prime Areas of Learning. The three and four year olds' planning, relates to the three Prime Areas of Learning and four Specific Areas. All tasks are linked to one or more of these Areas of Learning and Development - see table below. We report your child's progress in the three/seven areas in their Unique Stories.

| Area of Learning and Development | Aspect |
|--|---|
| PRIME AREAS | |
| Personal, Social and Emotional Development | Making relationships Self-confidence and self-awareness Managing feelings and behaviour |
| Physical Development | Moving and handling Health and self-care |
| Communication and Language | Listening and attention Understanding Speaking |
| SPECIFIC AREAS | |
| Literacy | Reading Writing |
| Mathematics | Numbers Shape, space and measure |
| Understanding the World | People and communities The World Technology |
| Expressive Arts and Design | Exploring and using media and materials Being imaginative |

All the activities we plan also consider the Characteristics of Effective Learning. These are the ways in which your child engages with other people and their environment. This underpins the learning and development across all seven areas and supports your child to be an effective and motivated learner. We observe how your child learns and provide opportunities for them to build on the skills. We also ensure they try and complete activities that will build on **all** Characteristics of Effective Learning. This is reported specifically to you in the 'Involvement' section of the Unique Story.

| Characteristics of Effective Learning | |
|--|---|
| Playing and exploring - engagement | Finding out and exploring Playing with what they know Being willing 'to have a go' |
| Active Learning - motivation | Being involved and concentrating Keep trying Enjoying achieving what they set out to do |
| Creating and thinking critically - thinking | Having their own ideas Making links Choosing ways to do things |

I hope this information is useful. If you have any questions, please speak to me.
Nicole Marsh