



Welcome back to the start of another exciting half term, you'll see from this newsletter that we will be as busy as ever with lots of fun and learning planned. An annual favourite is the arrival of the eggs which we watch hatch into beautiful chicks and teach them how to swim!. We also hope you will be able to join us for our Mother's Day celebration and other events held throughout this half term.

If you know of any friends, relatives or neighbours that are looking for a nursery place in September, please encourage them to register their interest with us by visiting nursery or calling the office. We would love to welcome them into our Sandy Lane family and you are the best people to share what a special place Sandy Lane is.

Marcia Head teacher

We know that our car park is always busy at drop off and collection, especially as it is used by other visitors to our campus. Please can I remind parents/carers that the disabled parking bays are for the use of blue badge holders only. Thank you in advance for your co-operation



Forthcoming events this half term

World Book Day Celebration - Thursday 2nd March To celebrate World Book Day, we are inviting you all to share a book with your child when you drop them off at the start of the session. Children are also welcome to come to nursery dressed as their favourite book character.



Ducklings

We are so excited to tell you we have some duckling eggs arriving this half term!! All children across the nursery will be able to observe the changes and watch as the ducklings hatch and grow over 2 weeks.



Mother's Day - We hope you will join us for our Mother's Day celebrations on Friday 24th March. Look out for further details on Tapestry nearer the time.



We will also be celebrating **World Down's Syndrome Day** on 21st March this half term. We will be inviting your children to come to nursery wearing wear odd or brightly coloured socks.



Nursery Activities

Garden and Sunshine Room - This term's 'big question' is 'How do we know it's Spring?'



And the direction for learning for **Rainbow Room** this half term is 'What can I grow?'



Celebrations- This half term we will be learning about the **Pingxi Sky Lantern Festival**, a traditional Taiwanese Festival. Look out for more information on Tapestry.

Our Values for this half term are Honesty and Trust

We'll also be spending lots more time in **Forest School** and the children have thoroughly enjoyed our new routine. As the weather improves, we will continue spending time in our lovely forest as well as doing more work and planting in our garden.



Sponsored Rhyme Time



Each half term, staff will post on Tapestry the songs and rhymes children will be learning with links to where you can find them on line. This will enable you to practise them at home with your child. We would love to see photos and videos of your child practicing at home too.

This half term, to raise funds for additional resources for all our children we are holding a **sponsored rhyme time**. On **Friday 31st March** children will come together to sing the rhymes they have been learning this half term and we would love you to sponsor them for each rhyme they sing. There are six rhymes to learn - sponsor forms can be collected from your child's key worker and further information will be available on Tapestry.

Home Learning and Tapestry Tuesday

Staff post a range of **weekly home learning activities** on Tapestry. As partners in your child's learning and development it is important that you support your child to complete these activities, many of which will enable them to gain extra practice and link experiences they have had in nursery. Please log in to Tapestry regularly throughout each week to ensure you keep up to date with these home learning challenges. If you would prefer a paper copy of the activities, your child's key worker will be happy to provide this. If you are having difficulty with any aspect of accessing or posting on Tapestry, we are here to help each Tapestry Tuesday. Please pop along to the staffroom at the start of your child's session and a member of staff will be available to support you.



How do I know my child is making progress in nursery?

Staff use Tapestry to share children's learning with parents and carers. The notes (observations) they write are linked to the areas of learning as well as providing information about how they learn and their levels of wellbeing and involvement. Throughout each half term staff post a range of observations and at the end of the half term will send you a short post which shows whether your child is 'on track' as well as some next steps. These are things you can do at home to support your child's progress and learning. If you have any questions about your child's progress, please speak to their key worker who will be happy to help.



School Holidays

School will close on **Wednesday 5th April 2023** and re-open on **Monday 17th April 2023**

Attendance—good attendance is the key to good progress



If your child needs to be absent from nursery please can I remind you to ring the office on **01925 623640** or **text 07415 869045**. Thank you for your cooperation.

Snack Payments

The charge for snack can be found on the school website under the 'Parents' then 'New Starters' tabs. Some families choose to pay for the **full school year**, most pay **termly** but you also have the option to pay **half termly**. **Charges for the term are £16 for children attending 15 hours and £32 for those who attend for 30 hours. We are now able to take card payments at the office and would much prefer parents/carers to use this option if at all possible.** We understand, however, that a small number of you may prefer to pay online or by cash. You will receive a text message as a reminder when payment is due with the cost to be paid.



Happy Birthday to You!

Children—Zayn, Theo, Klaudia, Amy, Albie, Gabriella, Billy, Ruby, Alfie



Staff—Janet

Clothing

Just a little reminder regarding suitable clothing and footwear. Children are engaging in sensory play and quite often become wet or messy. Please could you ensure your child has a change of clothes in nursery and that they come to school dressed for the changing weather.



You may wish to consider purchasing a school sweatshirt. These can be ordered using the form available on the website under the 'Parent' and 'New Starters' tabs or pick up a form in the entrance area. Post your completed form in the box by **Monday** and your order will be ready for collection on **Wednesday** each week. **We can take card payments at the office and would much prefer you to use this method if at all possible.**

Dates for your diary—Parent and Carer Events



In addition to our Mother's Day celebration, you are invited to attend the following events this half term. Don't forget to check Tapestry and our website <https://www.sandylanenurseryandforestschool.co.uk/> for event dates.

World Book Day—2nd March—Share a book with your child at the start of the session

Garden Room Parent and Child Cookery Workshop—We will post the date for this event on Tapestry

Tapestry Tuesday—drop in to the staffroom at the start of your child's session if you need any help accessing your child's journal

Parents and Carers Groups



Friends of Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School. This friendly group meets in the staffroom each half term to discuss how parents/carers can support the work of the school with things like fundraising, parent/carer involvement, including volunteering, and how we can all work together to make our school the best it can be.



Our **Rainbow Parents and Carers Group**. It's an opportunity for a drink and a chat with other parent/carers to share ideas, meet new friends and offer each other support. Dates for future meetings have been shared on Tapestry, please ask Kirsten or Nikki if you need a reminder.

If you are interested in joining either of these groups please just have a chat with me, Marcia, on the door at drop off or collection. **Come along and join us, you would be very welcome!**

2 Tanning Court, WA1 2HF - 07583 080521

Mon 4.30-6.00, Tues 12.00-2.00,

Wed 10.30-12.30, Thurs and Fri

12.00-2.00



If you would like to talk to someone about any issues you or your family may be facing please speak to Kirsten or Marcia who will be happy to help.





Being Healthy



Healthy Harry, our school travelling ted, helps children learn about being healthy. He has already paid a visit to lots of families and we love to see your Tapestry posts of his adventures with you at home.

Healthy Eating—Throughout this year our school has actively promoted being healthy and healthy eating as part of our school improvement. Parents and carers of children who attend for 30 hours have been given support and advice on healthy suggestions for lunchboxes and some of our families have received fresh healthy produce via Gousto food box donations. We hope you have enjoyed the recipes we've shared on Tapestry too and thank you to everyone who has contributed.

Our website contains lots of information on how you can maintain a healthy lifestyle through physical activity, healthy eating, supporting mental health and well being and good oral hygiene. This information can be found under the 'Parents', 'Keeping Healthy' tabs. There you will also find the link to a range of eBooks and activities which invite children to become familiar with a range of vegetables which we hope will encourage them to want to eat them. Here's the link

 **see** <https://www.seeandeat.org/>
& eat

Cooking Together Our website has a range of healthy recipes shared by staff and families you may like to try. You will find it under the 'Parents', 'Keeping Healthy' tabs. Here is a great website where you can sign up for a link to receive healthy recipes ideas to cook meals from scratch. You will receive 2 recipe ideas a week and they even give you a shopping list of the ingredients needed. Register using the link below

 <https://cooktogether.betterhealth-healthierfamilies.co.uk>



Portion sizes for young children are also very important and we know many children can be put off from trying food if there is too much offered on their plate. The British Nutrition Foundation has produced guidance on appropriate sized portions and the range of food recommended for young children can be found using the link below

www.nutrition.org.uk > toddlers-and-pre-school

Tooth brushing — In nursery children take part in a range of activities as they learn about the importance of good oral hygiene. Those who attend for 30 hours have also been supported to brush their teeth at nursery The Community Dental Service has produced some helpful guidance on how you can support your child with tooth brushing at home.

<https://communitydentalservices.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/12-Top-tips-for-teeth.pdf>

If you have any questions or would like support with any aspect of 'being healthy' please speak to your child's key worker who will be happy to help

Is your family registered with a local dentist?

The nearest one to nursery is **COTSWOLD DENTAL CARE** on Cotswold Road Tel: **01925 445425** This is for your information only, we are not able to provide a recommendation regarding this practice