



Nursery Newsletter 9

May 2016

www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our May Newsletter. It is lovely to see some sunshine and the children are enjoying having more opportunities to work and play outside. Please can you ensure that your child has a sun hat and has had some suncream applied before school on sunny days. Please can children also bring a coat for playtimes in case it is cooler (We need to cover all eventualities with our British weather!).



Your comments, as always, are welcomed and I would be happy to see you at any time if you want to catch me in the playground or call in at the office to make an appointment. If you do have any concerns or worries please have a word with your child's teacher as I know that they will do their best to help and to put your mind at rest.

Helen Stokes, (Headteacher).

Senior leadership team



Mrs Helen Stokes
Headteacher



Mrs Caryn Moffatt
Foundation Stage
Leader



Mrs Shelly Appleby
Key Stage 1 Leader



Mrs Helen Towers
Special Needs
Co-ordinator

This is the **Nursery** version of the May Newsletter.

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F1: Nursery

To help you in seeing which items you may need to take action on a list is below:

Actions for you to take:

- Ask for a Free School Meals application form at the office if you think you may be eligible
- Please send your child with a sunhat or cap and clothing that covers their shoulders on sunny days. Please put on sunscreen before Nursery
- Please support your child in collecting sponsors and send their sponsor form into school on 19th May for us to stamp. All sponsor money should be sent into school by 27th May
- Please ensure that you purchase the correct colours for school uniform if your child is starting school in September
- Please send donations for the Rainbow raffle in the colour your child's class is given (look out for letter)
- Please send in donations of baking for cake sale on 27th June
- If you have any ideas about how we can run a 'Food Drive' in school, or would like to put your name down to volunteer, we would be interested to hear from you. Please let the office know of your interest or speak to Mrs Stokes
- Please ensure that breakfast club bookings are made in advance to ensure you get a place. Give 24 hours notice to cancel a place or a charge will still be made
- Check the school website for updates on current events (www.watertorpeinfantschool.co.uk) ~ new language translator on website
- If you are interested in the role of governor please return the slip at the end of the newsletter
- Please can we remind families to ask children **not to ride scooters or bikes in the playground** as there are a lot of younger children who could very easily get knocked over
- Please return the slip at the end of the newsletter if you would like us to send newsletters to other family members/carers
- Even if you have completed Parentview previously please do log your views again for the school year 2015/2016

Items for action

School Meals

School meals are currently free to children from Reception/F2 to Year 2. Children in Nursery and in the Junior School have to pay for meals unless they have claimed for free School Meals (FSM). Children getting free school meals will also receive free milk.



- Ask for a Free School Meals application form at the office if you think you may be eligible

Uniform

Our uniform colours are **navy blue and red** (NOT royal blue). Summer dresses should be blue or red. (Please do not buy yellow or lilac school dresses). Children are welcome to wear navy, red or grey jumpers/cardigans without the logo or you can purchase our uniform from:



The School Trends shop or Tesco on-line at www.tesco.com/ues

- Please ensure that you purchase the correct colours for school uniform if your child is starting school in September

Sunny Days

Please apply sun screen/cream to your child on sunny days. As the application of cream in school is difficult to manage we would prefer you to use the sun screen/cream that only needs applying once a day as this can be done before their Nursery session. If absolutely necessary, we are able to help your child apply cream but this must be brought to the office and labelled clearly with your child's name and class.



Please can children also bring a sunhat or cap to wear when playing out in the sunshine. Children should wear clothing that covers their shoulders ~ no strappy tops please.

- Please send your child with a sunhat or cap and clothing that covers their shoulders on sunny days

Sponsored Bounce/Obstacle Thursday May 19th

Each summer term we have a sponsored fun event where we raise funds to support additional activities in school. Without these funds the activities would either not go ahead or we would have to ask families for contributions towards them. We would like to raise funds to purchase new picnic benches for the playground and the Nursery staff would like to spend some money improving their outside area.



We ask that Nursery children collect sponsors for the number of bounces they do on the bouncy castle ~ to a maximum of 50.

- Please support your child in collecting sponsors and send their sponsor form into school on 19th May for us to stamp. All sponsor money should be sent into school by 27th May

Family Picnic and Rainbow Raffle 4:30p.m. 27th June

After the success of our family picnic last year we have planned another for Monday 27th June. The picnic will be held on the field adjacent to Emmanuel School. The event will start at 4:30p.m. until 6p.m. but families are welcome to bring their picnics and go straight onto the field after school if they wish. A family game of rounders and other sporting activities will be run by Westfield Sport's leaders. We will also have a cake stall and we are looking for sponsors to provide other refreshments.



We are collecting for a 'Rainbow Raffle' and prize tickets will be drawn at the picnic. Each class will be given a colour and children are asked to donate new items of that colour to put in their class raffle box. A letter will be sent home with your child. Tickets will be on sale from the office after half term and at the picnic.

- Please send donations for the Rainbow raffle in the colour your child's class is given (look out for letter)
- Please send in donations of baking for cake sale on 27th June

Food Bank

In partnership with volunteers from Sheffield University and the Salvation Army, St Mark's church is about to launch a Food Bank for the S20 area. They have support from Sheffield City Council in providing premises in partnership with Shortbrook School, and from a number of grant making organisations to get up and running but they will need continuing support as they move forward.



Our Family of Schools have been asked to support this important local initiative. We know that there are many local families who are struggling with finances and who would benefit from access to a local foodbank.

We are looking at how schools will be able to support the Foodbank. The following is an outline of what we may be doing.

Each school to:

- hold a 'Food Drive' once per term
- advertise the Food Bank by way informing parents/carers of our existence ~ i.e. donations of food, volunteering and financial support
- If you have any ideas about how we can run a 'Food Drive' in school, or would like to put your name down to volunteer, we would be interested to hear from you. Please let the office know of your interest or speak to Mrs Stokes

School Website ~ Language translator added

Please visit our website at www.watertorpeinfantschool.co.uk

There is lots of useful information and links on the website and we continually update it. If there is anything that you would like to see on the website please let us know on the comment slip at the end of the newsletter.

We now have a 'News Update' tab on our website. We have also added a translator so that families are able to select the language they wish to view the website.

- Check the school website for updates on current events (www.watertorpeinfantschool.co.uk)

Parent Governor recruitment

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor. We would welcome applications for this voluntary post. We are particularly looking for someone with skills in communication who is able to make a regular commitment of time to the school.



- If you are interested in the role of governor please return the slip at the end of the newsletter

Breakfast Club

We offer childcare at our breakfast club from 7:55a.m. This includes a nutritional breakfast and a range of activities. The price of this is £3.50 per day. Children from nursery or school may attend; places must be booked in advance. 24 hours notice must be given for cancellations, unless due to pupil illness, or you will be charged.



Please note that we now have 14 regular bookings on some days and the maximum number of children we are able to take is 16.

- Please ensure that breakfast club bookings are made in advance to ensure you get a place. Give 24 hours notice to cancel a place or a charge will still be made. (This is particularly important when we are full and turning people away.)

Items for information:

Kid's Club

Kid's Club Committee have been working closely with Waterthorpe and Emmanuel governing bodies to explore options for the continuation of after-school childcare from June 2016. A consultation has been shared with Kid's Club users and families across both schools. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete this consultation.

A more detailed letter was sent to all families earlier this week. Copies are available from the office.

Based on the consultation we have taken the decision that the club will be able to remain open. In order for this to be possible we have reduced staffing to two people allowing a maximum of 16 children on any night. This does mean that one member of staff will still be made redundant. We will be losing Lewis at Spring Bank and would like to thank him for all his contributions over the last few years.

A new core fee of £8.50 per session for regular bookings will apply from 1st June 2016. This continues to be very good value for money as it breaks down to £2.83 per hour and includes a substantial tea-time snack such as pizza or beans on toast. Children also have free access to fruit and drinks. Working families can claim up to 85% of childcare costs through tax credits or Universal credit (This only applies to childcare such as kid's Club that is Ofsted registered and run by qualified staff.) We are currently working on the new contracts that parents would sign alongside a new charging policy.

Motorbikes on footpaths



The staff at Kid's Club have noticed that there are often motorbikes going really fast up and down the path between school and the field in the evenings. They are concerned about the safety of pedestrians, particularly children being collected from the club, arriving at Brownies/Rainbows or playing on the fields. Staff always phone 101 to report it to police. Please be careful on the footpaths and warn older children, who may go out to play unaccompanied. If you do see any motorbikes on footpaths please report it to 101 as the police usually respond more promptly when the volume of incidents of a particular type rises.

Book bags



It is helpful for all children to have a book bag when they start school. Book bags with our school logo on are available from the School Trends shop (just off Owlthorpe Greenway), however any suitable non-logo book bag is fine to use.

Bikes and scooters

It is lovely to see children cycling and scooting to school. We do ask that they do not ride in the playground in order to avoid accidents at busy times.

- Please can we remind families to ask children **not to ride scooters or bikes in the playground** as there are a lot of younger children who could very easily get knocked over. Thank you.

10 Day Active Challenge



Between 13th and 24th June we are taking part in the Challenge for using 'active' ways for travelling to and from school. Children across Sheffield will be taking part in this challenge. Look out for further news in our June newsletter.

Christmas Pantomime

We have booked to take all the children, who will have moved into school, to the pantomime in Rotherham in December. This will link with work that we will be doing in school and is a great opportunity for children to experience live theatre in the company of other children. The cost of this trip is £13. We wanted to give families plenty of time to start putting money aside for the trip.



Safeguarding Contact Numbers

Ensuring that children are safe is a responsibility for everyone. There have been many incidents over the years where children have come to harm and neighbours or local people have said that they were concerned but didn't take action or know what to do. To help you if you are concerned about a child there are some numbers below that can be used to report concerns. If you do this please try to provide as much information as possible. Calls may be anonymous.

- Sheffield Safeguarding team: 0114 2734855
- NSPCC: 0808 800 5000 or email help@nspcc.org.uk

When school staff have concerns about a child they inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Helen Stokes) or the Deputy (Mrs Caryn Moffatt). In most cases a member of staff speaks to the parent about the concern. We may ring the safeguarding team first to ask for advice about this. There are some concerns where we have to refer to Social Care. Please be aware that this is our professional responsibility and we always put children's well-being first.

When an incident of domestic abuse has taken place in a family we are notified by the safeguarding team at MAST (Multi-Agency Support Team). We may be able to support families who are suffering from domestic abuse and signpost or refer for support. It is also helpful to understand what may be happening in the life of a child outside school so that we can be supportive of any changes in behaviour.

It is really helpful for parents and families to keep the school informed about anything that may have an impact on their children.

['STANDING' NEWS ITEMS \(These are things that are included in every newsletter for your reference\)](#)

Closure Alerts

In the event of bad weather or other major incident such as heating failure or a major water leak there are occasions when we have to close the school. We always try to avoid this but our first priority is the safety of the children and staff.

If a closure does become necessary we will send out a text using our Parentmail system. Sometimes parents do not receive texts in a timely manner for all sorts of reasons such as having an out of date phone number on the system, phones being switched off, busy airways or a failure of the texting system. It is advisable to have an alternative way of receiving emergency information.

Sheffield City Council have a closure alert system for informing families and staff when a school is closed. To receive these alerts you need to sign up. The instructions for this and the link to do so are below:

Click on or type this link into your browser:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/register-for-alerts.html>.

You will need to register your email address and then can select the schools you want to receive alerts from. You need to go to Education - School Closures - Then look under primary/secondary/special educational needs to find your school. Click on the schools you wish to receive alerts from.

You can also select to receive alerts about a wide range of other subjects; just click on the boxes to select these.

Once registered you will receive an email if the school sends an alert to say that we are closing.

- Please register for School closure alerts at <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/register-for-alerts.html>.

Lost Property and toys brought to school

We continue to get lost property in our box each week. Often items have no names in so it is difficult to return them to their owners. Please try and put your child's name on all their clothes and belongings and we will do our best to return them to you.

Parentmail

At our recent consultation meeting, about parental engagement, it was suggested that we get emails of grandparents and other carers of children to ensure that they get information about what is happening in school through newsletters. We were told that this would be really helpful where other carers/family members brought and collected children from school. If you would like any of your child's other carers to be included in Parentmail emails please can you let us have their name and email address.

- Please return the slip at the end of the newsletter if you would like us to send newsletters to other family members/carers

We need your opinion...!



Parent view is one of the ways OFSTED and school collect views about a variety of different aspects of school life. The website you need is:

www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

- Even if you have completed Parentview previously please do log your views again for the school year 2015/2016

Recycling:

Takeback Ltd for Schools

We have recently registered with a recycling scheme to promote and encourage the recycling of used mobile phones, laser toner and inkjet cartridges. Please help us to promote recycling and also raise money for our school by bringing in any of the above used items. A box will be available in our reception for you to put your empty cartridges.



Clothing and textiles

Please use our red recycling bin in the playground for used clothes, shoes and textiles.

Tesco School Uniform

The Tesco website is available for uniform orders. You can access this through the following website link:

<http://www.clothingattesco.com/sheffield/waterthorpe-nursery-infant-school/inv/107064>



The school receives a 5% commission for any uniform sold. Any queries please do not hesitate to pop into the school office to discuss. Mrs Jones who works on Thursdays is our member of staff

responsible for uniform. Leaflets about uniform from Tesco or School Trends are available in the entrance area.

We do still have a small amount of uniform stock in school.

Westfield Family of Schools



This can be found at www.westfieldfamily.org. There is lots of useful information on the website and links to each school's individual website. Please have a look. There is a link on our school website to the Family of Schools website.

Stepping Stones Playgroup ~ Places for 2 year old children: Now opening on Thursdays

The Stepping Stones Playgroup, that runs in the community rooms, has places for children over 2 years old on Monday, Tuesday and, newly added, Thursday mornings 9a.m. to 11:30a.m. The cost is currently £9.25 per session, which includes a snack. If you would like more information, or to apply for a place, please call Diana on 0780 1349756 or Angela on 07787 518778. Stepping Stones are able to take children on the free 2 year FEL (Free Early Learning) places.

Note: Where families are not able to access their full 15 hours in Waterthorpe Nursery we can link with Stepping Stones to provide your child's free hours until spaces become available in Nursery.

Information about free places for 2 year olds can be found following this link:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/education/information-for-parentscarers/care-support/childcare/parents/earlylearning/2-year-early-learning.html>

Waterthorpe Toddlers

Toddlers is held in the Community Rooms on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings between 9am and 11am. All parents and children aged 0 to 4 years are welcome to come along.



Payments at the office



The office can be very busy first thing in the morning. To avoid having to wait in a queue you may put payments in the black letter box on the wall near the main door. Please ensure all payments are in an envelope clearly labelled with child's name, class and what payment is for. Receipts will be sent to you.

Attached to this Newsletter:

- PE Family Workshop letter
- Governor Interest slip

Diary Dates 2015 ~ 2016

May 11th 1:30p.m. PE Family workshop ~ All families welcome
12th Class Assembly Blue Base 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome

	19 th	Sponsored event
	26 th	Class Assembly Red Base 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome
	27 th	Break up for Half term
June	6 th	INSET DAY ~ No children in school
	13 th	Arts Week
	13 th	10 Day Active Challenge starts ~ Find an 'Active Way' of getting to school
	17 th	Arts sharing assembly 9:15a.m. (No merit and birthday)
	21 st	SEAL Family Workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ All school Families welcome
	27 th	Family Picnic 4:30p.m. to 6p.m. Waterthorpe Field/Thorpe Green
	29 th	Technology Family Workshop 2p.m. in hall ~ All families welcome
July	5 th	Sports Morning
	6 th	Class Swap day for transition (Y2 to Emmanuel)
	7 th	Parent's evening: Individual consultations 3:15 p.m. to 7p.m
	11 th	Nursery Consultation Day ~ Nursery closed to children
	12 th	Y2 Leaver's performance for Families 9:15a.m. in hall
	13 th	End of year Awards assembly 9:15a.m. in hall (Families welcome)
	14 th	Y2 Fancy Dress Party 1:15p.m.
	15 th	Final Merit and Birthday Assembly
	19 th	Break up for Summer Holidays



Your feedback and comments:

Parentmail details for grandparents/other carers

Child's Name..... Class.....

Please add the following family members to Parentmail so that they receive a copy of the parent newsletter and other important information:

Name:.....

Relationship to child:.....

Email addresses:.....

Name:.....

Relationship to child:.....

Email addresses:.....

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Parent Governor Interest

Parent's Name:..... Contact number:.....

Child/children's names:.....

I am interested in the role of parent governor.

Please tell us a little about yourself (interests/skills/what you feel you could offer as a governor: