



Nursery Newsletter

Spring 2 2018

www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk



Dear Parents/Carers,

Our Newsletter is now sent out half termly and a weekly update emailed to families with diary events and important updates. If you would like to receive emails please let us have an email address. The weekly updates are available to view on classroom doors and on our website 'News Update' page at www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk We are constantly updating the website and adding new information and pictures so please refer to this regularly. If there is anything else that you would like to see on the website, please let us know.

Our School Council have been working hard to develop our Travel Plan this half term. We have included information on their work in this newsletter. We hope that parents and families will support the work of the children and school to help improve safety and future outcomes for all our children.

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



Miss Kerrie Bryce
Nursery Teacher



Mrs Michelle
Taylor
Special Needs

This is the Nursery version of the Spring 2 Newsletter.

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

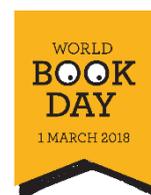
Actions:

- Please ensure that you always close and latch the gate during the middle of the day when coming to or leaving Nursery
- Please encourage your child to bring in items to Nursery that begin with the 'letter of the week'
- Please ensure that we have an up to date mobile number in school for sending texts.
- Please check the Sheffield City Council website for school closures or sign up for alerts
- Please use your unique number to register a sQuid account in your child's name
- Please contact the office if you need a new sQuid letter with your account details on
- Even if you have completed Parentview previously, please do log your views again for the school year 2017/2018
- Please donate boy's trousers/joggers for age 6 and over
- Please do not park or stop on the zig zag lines outside school
- If you would like any advice or support from MAST, please let us know and we will make an appointment for you
- Please join the Parent Coffee morning in Emmanuel for support and friendship. Ask at the office if you would like someone to take you to the group
- Sports Relief wristbands are on sale from the school office from 5th March for £1 each
- Children may wear sports clothes on Sports Relief Day (23rd March)
- Voluntary donations of £1 for Sports Relief Day will be collected from children in the classroom by classteachers on 23rd March
- Please purchase tickets for our Easter Draw (Ticket sheet attached). Return completed ticket and money to office
- We would welcome children bringing donations of Easter eggs or gifts to the office for our Easter Draw
- Please send a hard-boiled egg into Nursery in the week beginning 26th March
- Please let us know if there are any problems with giving your child a cream egg to bring home

Items for action

World Book Day ~ New event Date: Thursday 8th March

Due to the bad weather we were not able to go ahead with our World Book Day celebrations on 1st March. We know that many families have gone to a lot of effort, with costumes for children to dress-up as book characters, so we have rearranged our school event for Thursday 8th March.



- Children may come to Nursery/school dressed up as their favourite book character on Thursday 8th March

Pupil Safety and school Gates

It is really important that Nursery parents close the gates and place the top latch on when entering and leaving the playground between 11:15a.m. and 12:30p.m. This is to ensure that all our children in school are kept safe.



- Please ensure that you always close and latch the gate during the middle of the day when coming to or leaving Nursery

Work on reading and Phonics in Nursery

Reading and Phonics are key areas that we are working on as a whole school. Over the last few years we have been developing our work on these in Nursery and have introduced the teaching plan for phonics. As a result, we have seen the children make much greater progress with their early reading skills. It is important for children to attend regularly or they miss out on crucial teaching and find it harder to learn reading skills.



We also have a letter of the alphabet that we ask parents to focus on over a two week period. This letter is now shared on our weekly update so that you always know what it is. Next week it is the letter 'c' followed by 'e' leading up to Easter.

- Please encourage your child to bring in items to Nursery that begin with the 'letter of the week'

Weather alerts

We have recently had a spell of bad weather which, unfortunately led to school being closed. Many of the staff, myself included, tried setting off for school only to have to turn back because roads were impassable. We always consider the health and safety of pupils and staff first when considering closure and it is not something that we take lightly.



We aim to send a text via Parentmail as early as possible. You can also check all school closures on www.sheffield.gov.uk/schoolclosures. Please sign up to the council alerts system to receive alerts and updates, including school closures:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/sheffield/utilities/footer-links/register-for-alerts.html>

- Please ensure that we have an up to date mobile number in school for sending texts.
- Please check the Sheffield City Council website for school closures or sign up for alerts

Payments

We now have a system for families to pay electronically for trips, milk money, clubs etc. There will be a period of time where families may still pay with cash or cheques but we are aiming for online payments only by the end of the year.



All families have been sent a letter saying how to register for online payments. Each letter had a personalised code for each child. If you have not got your letter please ask for one at the school office. It is important to get registered before we go cash free.

- Please use your unique number to register a sQuid account in your child's name
- Please contact the office if you need a new sQuid letter with your account details on

We need your opinion...!



Parent view is one of the ways OFSTED and the school collect views about a variety of different aspects of school life. It is important for the school to have consultation representation from all families, so we get a balanced view and can see what you think we are doing well and where we need to improve. Please complete the short consultation on-line. 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 2017/2018

Spare clothes request

We are very short of larger sizes of trousers/jogging bottoms, particularly for boys. We would welcome any donations for ages 6 and over. Any school uniform or underwear is always welcome for our spare clothes box. Thank you.



- Please donate boy's trousers/joggers for age 6 and over

Zig-Zag Banner



During the holidays our 'No stopping' banner for the zig-zag lines was torn off the fence. In assembly we have been learning about the importance of keeping the zig-zag lines clear of traffic in order for children to be able to see and keep safe when crossing the road outside school. The children have been asked to design a new banner with the winning entries being printed up and put on the fence outside school.

- Please do not park or stop on the Zig zag lines outside school

Decorated Easter eggs

Please can your child bring a hard-boiled egg to Nursery in the week beginning 26th March. The children will decorate the eggs in Nursery and the judges will choose winning eggs who will receive an Easter egg.



- Please send a hard-boiled egg into Nursery in the week beginning 26th March

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Bunny is sure to visit before Easter. Whenever he comes we have a wonderful time searching for the eggs that he leaves us.

- Please let us know if there are any problems with giving your child a cream egg to bring home



Events you are invited to this half term:

MAST support appointments/Parent support Coffee Morning in Emmanuel Academy

The Multi-Agency Support Team are available to help families with a wide range of issues from problems with children's behaviour and bedtimes to housing and finance. The MAST worker will be able to advise you and put you in touch with the best agency to give support. All of us need some extra support or advice at times, being a parent doesn't come with a guide book!

MAST have now asked that parents book an appointment for the sessions. The sessions are held on alternate Wednesdays. The next meeting is **7th March 9a.m. to 10a.m.** If you would like to see a worker then please ask your child's teacher or Key Worker, or let the school office know, and we will arrange this for you.

The Parent Coffee morning in Emmanuel is a group of parents who meet on alternate Wednesdays for a chat and give each other support with any day to day issues. The Learning Mentor in Emmanuel is also a former School Nurse and a parent herself; she helps to lead the coffee mornings. This is a great way to get advice from people who know what it is like e.g. when your child is having tantrums or wakes up in the night regularly. The next event is on 7th March.



- If you would like any advice or support from MAST, please let us know and we will make an appointment for you
- Please join the Parent Coffee morning in Emmanuel for support and friendship. Ask at the office if you would like someone to take you to the group

Sports relief Day 23rd March

We are having a non-uniform day on 23rd March to raise funds for Sports Relief Day 2018. Donations of £1 will be gratefully received and sent to Sport Relief.



Sports Relief wristbands will also be on sale in school for £1 each from 5th March.

- Sports Relief wristbands are on sale from the school office from 5th March
- Children may wear sports clothes on Sports Relief Day (23rd March)
- Donations of £1 for Sports Relief Day will be collected in Nursery on 23rd March

Easter Draw Collection and tickets

We will be holding our popular Easter Draw this half term. Your donations of any chocolate eggs and Easter gifts are important for the success of our draw. Donations can be brought to the school office, where children will be able to put a stamp on their class chart and will be given a mini-egg as a thank you. All the money we raise from events such as these pays for additional events and resources for the children. We are currently raising funds for the purchase of Ipad's for children to use in classrooms.



- Please purchase tickets for our Easter Draw (Ticket sheet attached). Return completed ticket and money to office.
- Please can children bring donations of Easter eggs or gifts to the office for our Easter Draw

Items for information:

Rules on collecting children from Nursery



We follow Safeguarding guidelines about the age that brothers and sisters should be to collect younger children from school. These are published in our prospectus. 16 years old is the minimum age for a person to be able to collect a younger child in in the Foundation Stage.

School Council News

Class councils have been held in Year One and Year Two classes. These are held to inform children of the actions the School Council are currently working on. Part of the class council meeting this time was to inform/remind children about the 'Buddy Bench'. This is the bench outside Yellow Base window near the train. Children are encouraged to approach other children sitting on the bench as they may be sitting there to signal that they are upset or do not have anyone to play with.

A football table, and clothes for the 'baby' dolls have now been purchased and we are awaiting delivery of these. These have been purchased using School Council funds which are raised through selling ice pops in school during Friday reward playtime.



Fairtrade Fortnight

This year Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 26th February to 11th March. During this time, we are doing activities around Fairtrade products and their origins. An activity that you could do with your child whilst out shopping was sent home before half term. (Copies available from the school office.)

We would appreciate it, if you could let us have empty packets from Fairtrade products, so we can make a Fairtrade display.

Thank you from the ECO Team/School Council.

Waste Week

This year's Waste Week runs from the 5th to 9th March. The focus for this year's campaign is on food waste and packaging. Whilst out shopping please look at purchases and discuss how some packaging is wasteful and talk about how much of the packaging is recyclable.

Thank you from the ECO Team/School Council.

Travel Plan Work

Sustainable Travel is part of what we teach children in school. This work aims to improve the quality of life for our future community. Everyone agrees that we want our children to grow up safe and healthy and our Travel Plan works towards this collective aim.

This term our school council have been working hard to collect the views of everyone about how to improve sustainable travel. This has included consulting pupils, parents, staff and local residents. The School Council has met with local residents and they have completed a survey of traffic outside school.



These are the main problems that have been identified by the School Council, most cause a risk of danger to our children, or are illegal:

- Parents letting children out of car doors onto the road. This can be very dangerous. The evidence we have seen has been that it is usually Junior School children.
- People stopping or parking on the zig-zags ~ this endangers children crossing the road and is illegal.
- People parking on the pavement ~ we appreciate that this is to allow more room on the road for cars to pass but it also makes it difficult for people to pass safely, especially wheelchair/mobility scooters and pushchairs. This is also illegal.
- People parking very close to or over residents' driveways. This has caused problems for residents entering or leaving their homes and we have had complaints from those who haven't been able to get out to go to work.
- People parking on grass or driving over grass to get past parked cars. (Some people park at the top of the drive and this has meant either parking on the grass and ruining it or causing other drivers to drive over the grass.)
- Parking on both sides of the road and near the entrance to the drive; if there was an emergency a fire engine would not be able to pass



Thank you to everyone who has completed our Travel Consultation. We will shortly be drawing out a winner to receive a prize.

The results of the consultation for parents/families are shown on the next page. Once we have collated all the results of the pupil and staff consultations we will share these with you.

Families said the following through consultation:

39 families completed the consultation. 57% of these walked or used public transport and 43% came to school by car.

- 27% of these felt that stopping on the zig-zags was the greatest problem
- 23% felt that parking on the pavements was the greatest problem
- 15% felt parking across residents' drives was the greatest problem
- 13% felt that cars parking near the carpark entrance was the greatest problem
- 13% felt that drivers letting children out onto the road was the greatest problem
- 8% felt that parking on the grass was the greatest problem

The most popular initiatives for school to run were:

- Parent Parking Pledge (80%)
- Pupil Traffic Monitors (52%)
- Children to make signs for local residents (49%)

Some of the ideas for helping to make it safer for children outside school were:

- Extend yellow lines to areas where you cannot park
- More granite blocks to prevent parking on grassed areas
- Pupils monitoring traffic under supervision
- Remove grassed area and put in more parking spaces
- Alternative parking for Emmanuel staff to free up the car park in front of the school (Waterthorpe staff park in the little carpark down the drive)
- Have more of the 'Walk to School' incentives
- More patrolling and some sort of fine put in place for people not following the rules
- Teaching the children in school about safety of cars around school so they protest to their parents when they are blocking drives or parking on grass etc.
- Issue warnings to repeat offenders followed by reporting to the police

We would like to share some of the things that they have planned this term:

- An offer to local residents for the children to make parking signs to put on their gardens
- A Parking pledge initiative for parents to sign up to with children designing special badges to display in your cars (The pledge letter has been sent home.)
- A zig-zag sign competition with the winning sign displayed outside school (please use the design sheet attached.)
- School Council to raise funds to get plants/posts to prevent parking on grassy areas
- School Council to have supervised sessions where they actively monitor parking
- Walk to school events and initiatives to be run and promoted

On- going Information for newsletter

There is some information that we are regularly asked for, e.g. the number for playgroup, and we will put this in our newsletter attachment rather than in the main newsletter every month.

If you want any information on the following, please look at the 'Newsletter Extras' on our website.

Newsletter Extras:

- [Assemblies](#)
- [Attendance](#)
- [Book Bags](#)
- [Breakfast Club](#)
- [Children's University](#)
- [Easimaths](#)
- [Food Bank](#)
- [Holidays and term dates 2017~2018](#)
- [Holidays and term dates 2018 ~2019](#)
- [Kid's Club](#)
- [Lost Property](#)
- [MAST](#)
- [Medication](#)
- [Nursery](#)
- [Ofsted Parentview](#)
- [Parentmail](#)
- [Parking](#)
- [PE](#)
- [Rainbows](#)
- [Recycling](#)
- [Rules on collecting children from school](#)
- [Safeguarding](#)
- [School Meals](#)
- [Stepping Stones Playgroup](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Uniform](#)
- [Website](#)
- [Westfield Family of Schools](#)

Attached to this Newsletter:

- Easter Draw tickets

Diary Dates: Nursery events are underlined

March	7 th	SEAL Family Workshop 9:15a.m. to 10:15a.m. Good to Be Me theme
	8 th	Y1B (Miss Brooks) Blue Base class assembly 9:15a.m.
	8 th	<u>Rearranged World Book Day ~ Dress-up as a book character</u>
	9 th	Science Family Workshop 9:15a.m. to 10:15a.m. (Red, Blue, Yellow and Green Bases) ~ no Merit and Birthday assembly
	15 th	Green Base class assembly 9:15a.m.

- 16th 9:15a.m. Family of Schools Award Nominations Assembly
- 22nd Red Base class assembly 9:15a.m.
- 22nd World Water day
- 23rd Sports Relief Day ~ 9:30a.m. Y2 running on field
- 26th No After-School Clubs this week (Does not include Kid's Club)
- 27th Easter Garden assembly 9:15a.m. to 10a.m.
- 27th Family of Schools Cake Sale at Crystal Peaks
- 27th Individual Reports to parents out today
- 28th Easter Egg Competition and Easter Draw (children only)
- 28th Parent's Evening 3:15p.m. to 7:15p.m.
- 28th Break up for Easter at the end of today
- 29th INSET DAY School closed to children
- 21st March 4p.m. Singing Performance Y2 at Westfield School
- April 16th Return to school: No After-School Clubs this week (Doesn't include Kid's Club)
- 20th Autism Awareness Day
- 23rd Big Pedal starts
- 26th Cycle Skills Day
- 30th Humanities (History/Geography) Family Workshop 2p.m. (Red, Blue, Yellow and Green Bases)
- May 1st Scooter Skills Day
- 4th Pirate Day: Dress up as a Pirate and enjoy the Pirate Show! (School only)
8:30a.m. Walk to School with a Pirate 8:40a.m. Owlthorpe Underpass
Food Drive Friday
- 7th May Day Bank Holiday
- 8th Family of Schools Celebration Evening at Westfield 6p.m. to 7p.m.
- 23rd Sponsored Bounce/Obstacle Day
- 24th Class photos
- 25th Break up for Half term at end of today
- June 4th INSET DAY School closed to children
- 5th Return to school
- 11th 10 Day Active Travel starts today
- 11th Family of Schools P4C Celebration Day
- 13th Learn to ride your bike day
- 14th SEAL Family Workshop 9:15a.m. to 10:15a.m. Changes theme (No Merit Assembly)
- 18th Arts Week begins
- 19th Theatre Group performance for children 9:15a.m.
- 22nd Parents informed of new classes for September
- 26th Design & Technology Family Workshop 9:15a.m. (Red, Blue, Yellow and Green Bases)
- 27th Y2 parent meeting in Emmanuel 5:15p.m. (Parents only please)
- 28th Red Base Class Assembly

- July
- 3rd Sports Morning 9:30a.m. to 11a.m.
 - 4th Parent's Evening 3:15p.m. to 7:15p.m.
 - 5th Blue Base class singing Assembly/performance 2:40p.m.
 - 10th Family Picnic 4p.m. to 6p.m.
 - 13th Nursery Consultation Day ~ Nursery closed to children
 - 17th Children spend day in new class for September
 - 16th No After-School Clubs this week (Does not include Kid's Club)
 - 19th Leaver's Assembly & Y2 Attendance and Awards 9:15a.m. to 10a.m.
 - 20th Attendance and Awards (not Y2) Assembly & Birthdays (to include Y2 summer holidays birthdays)
 - 23rd Y2 Leavers Party Day (Fancy Dress)
 - 24th Toy Day
 - Break up for Summer at end of today

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**Feedback on any item in this Newsletter: Please return to school (With your name if you would like a response.)**

WATERTHORPE NI EASTER  
DRAW TICKET 2018



25P

Name/Child's Name:.....  
Tel:.....

WATERTHORPE NI EASTER  
DRAW TICKET 2018



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