



## Archbishop Runcie Church of England (VA) First School

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**Headteacher:** Mrs KE Massey

# Welcome to Nursery Newsletter!

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had an amazing summer. I am feeling very excited for the year of learning ahead and cannot wait to meet the new children as they begin a new chapter in their life; starting Nursery as well as welcoming back some of our existing Nursery children.

Thank you to all the new parents and carers who attended the Welcome Meeting last term to meet me and hear about expectations for the year. The PowerPoint is attached as a reminder.

### Staffing

This year, Mrs Nelms will continue to support in Nursery as our Nursery teaching assistant. Mrs Gyle will cover any teacher release time.

Mrs Brown is our Early Years Medicines Lead. If your child requires medicine during the school day, please contact him via email address; [Will.Brown@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:Will.Brown@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk). You will need to meet with him before school begins to ensure medication forms are completed. Myself, Mrs Nelms, Mrs Gyle and Mr. Brown are First Aiders for Early Years.

### Drop off and collection

We have a staggered drop off in place from 8.35am until 8.45am. Nursery children will enter through the Nursery cloakroom door and be welcomed by a member of the Nursery team. Children are dismissed from the cloakroom door at 3.15pm. If your child is attending for only 2 ½ days/15 hours, they will be dismissed from the main office at 11.30am on Wednesday (option 1) or welcomed from the main office at 12.30pm (option 2).

### Learning

This term, our topic is 'Once Upon a Time'. During this topic we will explore a range of Nursery rhymes and traditional tales, focusing on Goldilocks and the Three Bears. As we welcome new children into Nursery, we will also be focusing on settling our new children into the classroom, making friends and adjusting to new routines. We will spend time exploring all the areas in our classroom, as well as the outdoor area. All children are different, some will settle more quickly than others. If you do have any concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to speak to me. I am always here to listen and to help in any way to ensure your child's transition into Nursery is as smooth as possible.

Each half term, I will send home a knowledge organiser so you know what your child is learning at school and how you can support their learning. We regularly celebrate our learning on X (formerly Twitter), so please follow us at @Runcieof to see what we are up to each week. You can help

support your child at home by sharing stories (our focus this half term is traditional tales), singing Nursery Rhymes and helping your child to be independent with self-help skills such as toileting and using a knife and fork.

We also use Tapestry as a form of home/school communication. We share photos and videos of your child's key learning and would love to see any home news you wish to share uploaded to Tapestry. Tapestry is a great tool for sharing achievements and news and enables the staff to focus in on your child's interests and news from home.

## **PE**

PE will be taught on a Wednesday morning. This term we will be using a music and movement program called 'Sticky Kids.' Our PE sessions will take place in the school hall. Nursery children will not require a PE kit this term as we will build up to getting changed for PE. After Christmas, children will need PE kits. These can be left in school on your child's peg. This term, we will be focussing on independently taking off our socks and shoes. (Please practise this at home). Could any children with long hair please have it tied up on a Wednesday? PE will commence once all of our new children have fully settled.

## **Jewellery**

Please can I ask that children do not wear any jewellery on any day for school. Thank you. Children wearing jewellery will be asked to remove it and bring it home. We cannot be held responsible if it goes missing.

## **Snacks and water**

All children should bring a named water bottle each day. This will be taken home each evening to wash in preparation for the next day. Please remember this should be filled with water only. A healthy snack and milk are also provided each day for children in Nursery.

## **Reading**

Reading is the most important skill children will learn at First School. The children in Nursery will require a book bag as they will be bringing home a book from our lending library. Books will be changed weekly on a Wednesday and hopefully enjoyed by parents and children. Please leave a comment in your child's reading record once you have shared your child's chosen book at home.

## **Other belongings needed**

Please can we ask that your child brings a pair of clearly labelled wellies to Nursery, which they can leave under their coat peg. This will enable us to use our outdoor area in all weathers. Any hats/gloves/scarves etc may be hung on your child's peg in a draw string bag. Please can you ensure all your children's belongings are clearly labelled so they can be easily returned if lost. This includes shoes, gloves and hats as well as all uniform items. The classroom is a busy place, and it can be difficult to locate lost jumpers which are not labelled!

## **Donations**

We use a great deal of malleable items in Nursery, and we would really appreciate it if you could donate any of the following items to Nursery at any time.

- Pasta
- Shaving foam
- Buttons
- Cream of tartar
- Cornflour
- Flour
- Food colouring
- Salt

Many Thanks

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to email me at the below address.

I am really looking forward to the year ahead and cannot wait to begin a new year of learning in Nursery.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs Francis*

Kathleen.Francis@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk

<b>Autumn Term Dates</b>	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Staff Training Day
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Drop-in sessions for new children/existing children return
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	Children new to Nursery begin allocated hours
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Nursery Forest School
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Staff Training Day
<b>Other important dates</b>	
28.10.23 – 01.11.23	October half term

Please also check the newsletter for new, upcoming dates or any changes. Thank you!

**Be courageous; be strong.**

**Do everything in love.**

1 Corinthians 16:13-14