

Term 1 Newsletter (Turtles)

Dear Families,

Welcome back to those who are returning, and welcome to all those who are joining us! We hope you had a lovely summer break and are looking forward to a new, fun and exciting school year.

The Pre-school team:

Chelsea Porter
Class Teacher
Mon – Fri

Sharon Fisher
Learning Support Assistant
Mon – Fri

Jo Devine.
ECT cover
Mon pm

Rebecca Ware
PPA cover
Wed pm

Enquiry Questions this term: What makes me special?

This term we are thinking about what makes us unique by exploring our similarities and differences, our families, our likes and dislikes and celebrating these! Through this enquiry question we will begin to develop positive attitudes towards each other and develop respectful relationships.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus on the right:

- Article 31: Every child has the right to rest, relax, play and take part in cultural and creative activities.

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website.
[Please click here to view the overview for this term. \(PS\)](#)

Home Learning

Reading

Any opportunities to read stories, or look at picture books together with your child are greatly encouraged. Reading stories are a great way to build listening and attention, understanding, and language skills, as well as promoting their imagination.

Spelling

Whilst we will not be doing spellings in pre-school, promoting name recognition is a good skill to support children within their everyday experiences, such as finding their self-registration card.

Maths

Children are expected to practise key number facts at home regularly.

Pre-School & Reception

[Click here to view our parent guide on how to support with mathematics.](#) This has lots of ideas on play-based activities to help your child with key mathematical skills.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise early number facts at home.
<https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice.

[Early Years](#)

[Busy Things can be accessed from home with useful maths games and activities.](#)

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.

[Early Years](#)

[Busy Things also have some good games for times table recall practice, particularly miner birds.](#)

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

Class Page

You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.

Nature Area

We are hoping to explore our nature area on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday which can get wet and muddy! Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothing for this, has a pair of wellies in school and pack spare clothing in case they need to change.

School Clothing Guidance

Please see the [page on our website](#) for more information on appropriate clothing for school.

Library Day

Our Library Day is on a Friday at 1.30 – 2.00pm.

Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.

PE Day

Our hall slots are on a Wednesday and Thursday at 10.30 – 11.30am.

Whilst in pre-school we may not be doing 'formal PE lessons', we will be doing lots of different activities to promote our fine and gross motor movements, developing our physical skills and exercising.

What does my child need to bring into school every day?

- Wellies and a coat.
- Filled Water Bottle.
- Spare changes of clothing: top, bottoms, underwear, socks, another pair of shoes.
- Nappies and wet wipes if needed.

Questions or concerns

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to Chelsea during drop off or pick up times, alternatively you can send an email to info@somerdaleet.org.uk.

Healthy Snacks for Playtime

In the Early Years and Key Stage One, the children are provided with a free piece of fruit or vegetable via the Government scheme.

Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars.

For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.

For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.