



Headteacher: Mrs K. Williamson BA Hons QTS (1st), AST, NPQH, MA

South Otterington Church of England Primary School

South Otterington

Northallerton

North Yorkshire

DL7 9HD

Tel: (01609) 776273

www.southotterington.n-yorks.sch.uk

Email: admin@southotterington.n-yorks.sch.uk

Monday 8th May 2017

Purple Class (Pre-school) routines Summer 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have all settled back in after the Easter holiday. They are always pleased to see each other after the break and soon get back into the routine. You will have noticed Pre-school numbers have increased and each session is busy, this is partly due to the trial of the 30-hour funding scheme that North Yorkshire County Council is running this term, but also because we are a popular and successful pre-school and have children joining us throughout the year (with a waiting list!) This is good news for Pre-school and reflects the hard work and dedication of the early year's team and school staff. We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Metcalfe to Purple Class; she is an experienced Advanced Teaching Assistant with particular interest in early years. She will be with us on a daily basis and as she is responsible for bringing the tortoise to Purple Class I think she has gained admiration and is the favourite of the children already!

To ensure we meet the needs of all the children, we will be introducing a more structured timetable to the day. This will enable us to focus on each age group and make sure that all children get the most out of the day, still active learning through play, but with more emphasis on group activities and outcomes based learning. Our theme for the term is "Habitats and Watching Wild Life". We will look at wildlife and animals from around the world, mini-beasts, food, plants and vegetation. Do join us for Sports Day at 9.15am on Thursday 25th May.

We encourage independence and this term will continue to help the children learn to dress/undress themselves for outdoor play - coats, shoes, hats etc. Please can all items be named. You would be surprised how similar coats and 20 pairs of little shoes can look, and with a lot of children wearing school uniform that really is, the same!

Please ensure that your child has a pair of named wellingtons in school, useful for wet weather and water play. As it is the summer term, your child will need a sun hat and on sunny days come to Pre-school wearing sun cream (we can hope for sunny weather). Please also provide a full set of spare clothes, again for messy or wet play and other little accidents! Items can be left in the cloakroom on your child's peg. We have found it useful for children to bring their own drink/drinking cup that they recognise, as it encourages hydration throughout the day and we will also provide water and milk at snack and lunch times.



Please ask if you would like us to provide written information in a more helpful language or format e.g. large print.

"Wild School" will begin again this term; this is our mini version of Forest School. The Forest School ethos is an inspirational process that offers all learners regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment. The sessions will be run in the outdoor area, the grounds around school or the Police Headquarters. Exact days of the week have not yet been decided but by varying the days we hope that all children can experience some of the sessions.

School lunches are proving very popular and the children really do seem to enjoy them. We encourage children to eat as much of their meal as they can and pudding is always eaten second! If your child brings a packed lunch remember that school is a "nut free zone" and please check that all items are nut free. Also when packing fruit for your child it is helpful if it's prepared and ready to eat, and grapes should be cut in half to prevent choking. We always return all the packaging/wrapping for recycling and any uneaten food items so you can monitor what your child has eaten.

You can view your child's on-line learning journal through Tapestry, there have been some access issues but I hope you can all now see the great progress your child is making and the type of achievements they have made and experiences gained. If you are still having any problems accessing Tapestry please speak to a member of staff. You are warmly invited to attend our open morning on Friday 23rd June, you will be able to see the sort of activities the children take part in and have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their key person.

You will be kept up to date with school events, news and dates to remember, through the school communication systems - email and texts - together with emails directly from Pre-school. Please do join in with school events and you have the opportunity to meet other parents through the "Friends" parent group who fundraise for school.

We continue to operate an open door policy. The staff team are always available at drop off and collection times for a quick chat or if you have any issues or matters you wish to discuss in more detail please speak to your child's key person or Jo Llewellyn or email to the pre-school address 633228@nyey.co.uk. You can always text or telephone 07789 127414 or if you cannot get through you can telephone the school office on 01609 776273.

All the team have lots of exciting activities and learning opportunities planned for the summer term and we will keep you informed of future dates.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Llewellyn and the early year's team



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