

Summer Newsletter 2024

We are now into the final half term of the year and what a busy year it has been. It really doesn't seem long since we were starting the new academic year.

It has been a good year for Deepdale. Our staff team have worked hard to create an exciting and nurturing environment for the children and there has been lots of valuable learning in the setting. As always it never ceases to amaze, the creative planning that goes into the sessions that the team offer.

Our older children are well and truly ready for their next steps, and our little ones are ready to take their place. As usual the children have all been amazing, and our parents have been great too.

Staff team

Our staff team for next term is as below. Jane will be leaving us this year as she has finally decided that retirement is on the cards. I am sure that you will join us in thanking her for all that she has brought to Deepdale. Jane will definitely be missed, but I think that she will be popping in to do some story times and maybe even some baking!!



Sarah will be taking on the role of deputy manager. Sarah has a level 5 qualification in Childcare and has 18 years' experience in the industry. I am confident that she will do an amazing job.

Kathy Hudson: Director

Vicki Norman: Settings Manager

Sarah Broom: Settings Deputy Manager

Stacey Campbell: Pre-School Practitioner

Millie Cunningham: Pre-School Practitioner

Katie Boothroyd: Pre-school Practitioner

Becky Massey Pre-school Practitioner

Helena Belaid: Accounts and Administration

Availability

We Have had very high attendance this year and it has been difficult to offer extra sessions for our children. For all of you, who will be staying with us for next year, we are looking at a much quieter start, so availability of sessions should not be a problem. Please may I remind you that as per our terms and conditions, anybody who wishes to reduce or terminate their hours at Deepdale, must give half a term's notice.

If anybody is wishing to change/increase their hours for next year, then please let us know as soon as possible.



Illnesses

As mentioned in previous newsletters. It's that time of year when there are lots of viruses around and we are all coming down with various illnesses. We have been fairly lucky this year and there doesn't seem to be too much going around. Fingers crossed that this will remain so.

Could I please ask that if your child/children are not feeling well and are in the need for some extra TLC that you keep them at home. As said before, we would love to be able to cuddle them all day but unfortunately, we don't have the capacity to do so, which means that your child is not getting the care that they need whilst feeling poorly. This is also the case when children have had a bad night's sleep and are very tired.

Weather

Hopefully the weather will continue to improve, and we will get lots of warm and sunny weather. Please may I ask that you to send your child/ren in appropriate clothing for the weather e.g. light clothing, hats, and apply suncream on warm/sunny days.

What we have been doing

This term we have been very busy with lots of exciting topics and activities. As always, the team have been amazing, creating all kinds of exciting activities.

The topics that were covered last half term.

Health: learning about our bodies, exercise and sports activities, healthy foods and oral health.

Kings, queens and Knights: Talking about the royal family, looking at castles, nights and loving looking and making dragons.

Shapes measuring and weighing: Where the children have enjoyed playing with the weighing games and watching how the scales change, using weight numbers to balance them out. They have been learning their shapes and using measures to learn about long and short.



Food and religious festivals: Trying different foods from different countries. Learning about different cultures and religions.

Feelings and boundaries: Talking about being kind and helping others and recognising feelings by exploring face expressions.

As always all of these things are delivered through play and creative activities, stories or games. Please check our Facebook page to see weekly photos of what the children have been doing.

Snack



Snack is provided each morning and afternoon and is a special part of the day where the staff get time to spend quality time with the children. We have always asked for a voluntary contribution from parents to provide a piece of fruit rather than charging a cost for this and other consumables. We would like to say a **BIG THANK YOU** to those who have already donated fruits and if it is at all possible, please pop a piece of fruit in the basket on the lunch box trolley or hand it to one of our ladies. Up until present we have chosen not to charge for consumables as other childcare providers do. Just one piece of fruit makes a difference.

Packed Lunch

Please may we ask that if you send your child with grapes/blueberries in their packed lunch that you cut them in half, length ways. This also applies to cherry tomatoes and any other small round items. This is due to the size and shape which has been identified as a choke hazard for children.

Rising 5's

Rising 5's sessions have been going well. The sessions are more focused for our 3 and 4year-olds as we work to prepare them for school. The session will be running until 11th July.

Pre-School leavers

For all of you who have children leaving to go to reception this year. You should have all heard which school your child will be attending. Hopefully we will be contacted by the school's reception teachers and the transition visits will commence.



There are big changes ahead for our little ones but please be assured that we will do all that we can to make it as smooth as possible.



Photo shoot

There will be a photo shoot taking place for the children on Thursday 13th June. Children who attend on Thursday will automatically have their photos taken unless you tell us otherwise. Anybody who does not attend on a Thursday may book a slot by speaking to Kathy or Helena. If you would like photos taken with siblings, then please let us know.

Front Door

It has been mentioned that the main door to the building is rather heavy and could be dangerous, especially on windy days. Please could I ask that to avoid little hands being trapped or any child being knocked over that you take good care to hold it whilst it is closing and make sure that the children are in front of you when entering the building. I will order a door stop to help the situation when the door is open on a morning.

Training sessions

Some of the children may have mentioned Markel coming into pre-school to do some healthy training sessions. Markel is one of our parents who has kindly volunteered to do some sessions for the children as and when he is available. The children absolutely love it and are very excited when they know that he is coming. Markel reports that the children are very well behaved when he takes the session and that he enjoys his time with them. The session is carried out on the field with Markel and a member of our staff team. It is delivered to small numbers of children at a time so that the learning is positive for all.



Markel is a qualified personal trainer and Deepdale has registered him as a volunteer for insurance and obtained a DBS.



Dates for your diary

We will be finishing for the summer holidays at **1pm on Friday 19th July**, and for those of you who will be joining us in September we will be returning on Monday 2nd September.

The remaining training days for this academic year are:

Monday 22nd July

Tuesday 23rd July

School Photos Day Thursday 13th June

Parents evening for children going to reception:

Tuesday 2nd July

Training days for the next academic year are:

Thursday 21st November (Safeguard training)

Friday 20th December

Monday 2nd June

Monday 21st July

Tuesday 22nd July