

# Earlybirds Newsletter

May 2019



## News from the Earlybirds Team

Dear Parents,

As we head towards the final half of the summer term in Earlybirds, we would like to wish all our families a restful half term. We will re-open at 9am as usual on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. For those children transitioning to Newtown Soberton Infant School, a programme of transition events has been organised between the school and Earlybirds. This includes a handover liaison between Earlybirds and Newtown Soberton staff to discuss progress, attainment and next steps for the children beginning Year R in September.

To support transition for children starting at other schools, we will be sending an overview of each child's progress and attainment to the receiving school, along with an invitation for the class teacher to visit Earlybirds to see the children in setting.

As you may be aware, Mrs Chambers has been absent for part of this term due to complications arising from a medical issue she is due to have a planned operation for in the near future. Mrs Chambers' operation has been scheduled for the end of May which means she will remain absent for a period of approximately 4-6 weeks following this. We are hopeful she will return towards the end of the summer term and in the meantime, Mrs Moro will oversee the day to day running of Earlybirds.

As the weather is getting better, please remember to apply suncream to your child before they come into setting. We do not carry our own suncream so please send a named bottle in with your child if you would like it re-applied during the day. Please also ensure they have showerproof coats, particularly as the weather is so changeable and we are outside in all weathers.

Billing for Summer 2 will be raised shortly and we respectfully ask all parents in receipt of a bill to pay within the timescale as further charges may be incurred for delayed payment. Thank you for your help with this matter.

Finally, as you have been previously informed, please remember that we are closed for our final INSET training of the year on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

### Staff Members

Lucy Chambers – Leader and Safeguarding Lead  
Marina Moro – Deputy Leader and Deputy Safeguarding Lead  
Anne Slade - SENCo and Pre School Assistant  
Jane Waller - Pre School Assistant  
Sarah-Jane Clark – Pre School Assistant  
Ailsa Duckworth - Administrator

### Reminder

Please remember to close and bolt the gate that leads onto the main road.

Please do not park in the layby or on the zigzag lines at any time.

We are a NUT FREE pre-school.

### **Funding and Headcount**

All 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours funding starting from the term after their third birthday. If this is your first time claiming funding or your child's hours have changed since the last funding period, please complete and return a funding form. In addition to this, eligible 2 year olds are entitled to 15 hours funding and some 3 and 4 year olds will be eligible for 30 hours funding. Any parents wishing to claim 30 hours funding in September needed to provide us with an eligibility code prior to the end of this term as you will not be able to claim retrospectively and will not be able to use your funding until the following term.

Please visit <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-and-education-for-2-to-4-year-olds> to check eligibility and get your code.

### **Session availability**

As some of our children transfer to school, there will be additional availability for sessions for children remaining with us in September. We will shortly be writing to those of you remaining with us to offer additional hours for the autumn. If you would like to increase the number of sessions your child attends, please complete and return the paperwork once it is sent.

Please remember that all children who have turned 3 are eligible for funding to help with childcare costs, as are 2 year olds whose families are in receipt of certain benefits. Please see above for further details.

### **Transition**

As part of supporting transition to school in September, our Sparrows children will be having some of their lunchtimes in the school lunch hall with a member of the Earlybirds team after half term. Even if your child is not attending Newtown Soberton we believe it will be beneficial for them to experience a larger school lunch hall before September. Please speak to a member of staff if you have any questions about this or would like to opt your child out.

### **Key Dates**

#### **Summer Term 2019**

- **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

Staff training INSET dates (pre-school closed):

- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

#### **Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May - HALF TERM**

- Tues 4th June 6.30-7.30pm Parents' Meeting at NSIS for children starting in September 2019
- 10th -14th June Stay and Play (Father's Day themed)
- Monday 24th – 28th June SPORTS WEEK – more information to follow shortly
- 2.30-4.30pm Friday 12th July Family barbeque in conjunction with NSIS
- 9.30am, Monday 22nd July Leavers' assembly and end of year party
- 3pm, Tuesday 23rd July Summer Term finishes

#### **Wednesday 24th July – Tuesday 3rd September - SUMMER 2019 BREAK**