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Newsletter September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

We would like to wish you all a very warm welcome. We can't believe we actually did it, it's only taken 23 months of blood, sweat and tears, but we have got our fantastic new pre-school. Please be patient with us as we are having to get to know our setting and how it will work with our daily routines. We are new to breakfast, and teas and lunches, we were used to serving them in a large school hall. The first few days it was a bit manic but by the end of the week we are starting to find our feet.

I have printed everyone an invoice and put it in your children's tray, however I would like to get away from printing them off every month for the environment and the cost. I will be emailing invoices and most information you will receive from me will be by email. Could I please ask that you acknowledge receipt of your emails even with an ok.

Invoices will be sent out monthly any meals taken during the month will be invoiced the month after so we can ensure we only charge you for what you have. Please can I ask that no cash is handed over unless it is in an **envelope** with your **child's name marked** clearly on the front with what you are paying for. I can't take cash without the envelope as my brain is not that good at remembering who has given me what, especially as we have 50 children on our register.

Can we give a huge thank you to Kate McWilliams (Dexter's mum) for coming up with the idea about the picket fence, we have raised enough money for our fence and gate due to your kind donations from yourselves and some from the children at Parochial Primary.

We have had a request from the school to kindly ask parent/carers not to use the staff carpark when dropping off and picking up your children.

I know your children have just started pre-school but we have been asked by the local authority for everyone to enrol your child for primary school next year. This can be done online [www.gateshead.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk/schooladmissions) all applications must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2018. If you require any further information I do have some literature sent from admissions just ask.

The pre-school will have be having the same holidays and inset days as the primary school so the next half term will be Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of October and we return back to pre-school on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> of October.

This half term we use these few weeks to settle the children in and learn their daily routines. We will be introducing the children to the fire circle in preparation for the next half term when we will be having fires. This half term we will also be looking at the festival of Diwali the Hindu festival of lights. The pre-school does 'In The Moment Planning' which follows the children's interests all areas of the Early Years National Curriculum ' Early Years Foundation Stage' is covered and linked to the 2Simple app so you can see your child's learning and development. Please respond to each of your 2simple emails, ideally with a brief update on how you feel your child is developing or informing us of current interests. But if you are too busy a simple ok or thanks will be enough occasionally. Please be aware while we are recording your child's observations we are also supervising your children and therefore predictive text sometimes takes over and mistakes can be made as we do not proof read as it is time consuming whilst we are with the children.

One last thing, can we ask you make sure all your children's clothes and shoes have their name clearly marked inside. We have already had a couple of mix ups with shoes, coats and jumpers this week.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above or anything please just ask as we are always here to help if we possibly can.

Many thanks

Andrea & Tanya

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