



Welcome Newsletter

September 2020



Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to Reception at Sandringham Infant and Nursery School. We hope you and your child are looking forward to being part of Hedgehogs and Moles class. Please find below some early information about classroom organisation and home-school liaison.

Drop Off and Collection

From Monday 21st September, your child's school day will start at 8.40am. The children in Year 1 and Year 2 will begin arriving from 8.50am, so we ask that you are prompt arriving at school to avoid an increase in congestion. Please follow the one-way system at drop off and collection, and respect social distancing at all times. At drop off, we ask you to follow the main path up to the Nursery gates. Your child will be greeted by a member of the team and taken into the classroom. They will be encouraged to hold their own belongings so please ensure your child is holding everything they need as you walk towards the drop off point and say goodbye. Parents/carers should exit along the front of the building and out through the car park. If you arrive late and the school gates are closed, please buzz at the front gate and a member of the office team will meet your child and take them to class. Unfortunately at the moment, parents/carers are not permitted into the school building whilst we adhere to Government guidelines.

At pick up time, please arrive along the path the same as in the morning. Your child's school day finishes at 3pm and they will walk out with their class teacher to be received by their grown up in time for gates to be opened at 3pm. Please bear with us as the team learn to recognise faces in the early days of starting school, but be assured this will speed up as we get to know you. Thank you for your patience.

We appreciate that starting school is a new experience for many families and we are always happy to answer any queries you may have. Whilst we have social distance restrictions dictating how we can interact, we encourage families to continue the line of communication via phone call or email to the school office – these will be forwarded to staff to respond to as soon as they can. Arrival in the morning is an important time for your child and we must ensure that our focus remains on them and the movement of pedestrian traffic remains fluid.

If your child is going to be collected by another adult at home time, please inform us in writing or by phone or email to the school office. Photographs of new adults are also helpful in allowing staff to match names to faces!

Self Registration and Ordering Lunch

With current guidelines, we have changed the way your child's lunches are selected. Please book your child's choices online via your SCOPAY account. Details of this would have been in

your initial induction pack, but please contact office on info2@sandringham.kite.academy if you are not yet registered with the School Cash Office (SCOPAY). Lunches should be ordered in advance and the menu is also available on the school website for you to make choices from. For school dinners, children can have a red, green or yellow band option. Red tends to be a meat option, green a vegetarian option and yellow, a jacket potato with various fillings. Please also use this system if your child is having a packed lunch, so we know what they are having. Whilst we establish our new routines, we would really appreciate it if you could remind your child what they are having for lunch each day so they are prepared.

Snack, Milk and Water Bottles

Each day your child will be offered a selection of fruit or vegetables for their morning snack. There is no need for you to provide this for them. Children can access our snack bar between 9.30-10.30am every morning and 1.30-2.30 every afternoon. All children will be regularly reminded that snack is available, but it is up to them to decide when they feel hungry and would like a snack.

If you would like your child to have milk whilst at school, we would ask that you register for it with Cool Milk. This can be done online. The milk is free for children under 5, but can still be ordered for over 5s for a fee. Please see leaflet in your induction pack. If you have any problems registering please let the school office know.

At Sandringham, we encourage children to drink water to keep their brains hydrated and active for learning. Please ensure your child comes to school every day with their logo water bottle **filled only with water**. Children can refill their water bottle in school using the water fountains in the cloakroom. Please do not send in any other liquid for your child to drink (no squash please - even the clear variety) as it will be tipped away and refilled with fresh water.

Bike Helmets

If you have stated that you would like your child to wear a helmet when riding the wheelie toys at school, please ensure you send this in - we will not allow children to ride a bike without a helmet if their parent/carer has stated that they should. These will be kept in the classroom cloakrooms and will only come home if/when you need them to.

Book Bags

Please ensure your child brings their Sandringham book bag to school each day. These can have one small keyring attached to them to help your child identify it easily. Please do not send your child to school with a home backpack as they take up too much room on in the cloakroom boxes. The Sandringham book bag is part of our uniform so we encourage all children to have one. Your child's book bag will and should always contain their reading folder with a reading book, yellow diary, letters and sounds book and a set of key words inside. Each morning, your child will leave their book bag in a coloured tray under their peg in the cloakroom. There may be notes, letters or drawings inside your child's bag so please check them at home regularly. Most letters are sent via email, but spare copies are available outside the school office.

Celebrating Success at Home

Alongside their reading folder, your child will bring home a handout for parents titled 'Celebrating Success at Home'. Please could you complete this and return to school as soon as possible. This will support teachers in their early assessments of what your child can do and where we may target our provision to ensure they continue to grow and develop.

Reading Books

Your child's reading folder should come to school every day. Your help with reading is invaluable. Please date, sign and leave a short comment in the yellow reading diary when you have read with your child at home. Your child will read at least once a week in school with either one of the teachers or to a learning support assistant.

Key Words

In addition to their reading books, the children will be given key words to learn. These words frequently appear in their reading books. Teachers and teaching assistants will regularly check to see whether your child can confidently read these words. If this is the case, they will be given a new set of words to learn.

Phonics

At Sandringham, we follow the Letters and Sounds programme for teaching phonics and support this teaching using Jolly Phonics. To begin with phonics sessions are taught as a whole class with teachers modelling how each letter sound is pronounced (e.g. 'sssss'), what the letter name is (e.g. pronounced 'es') and how these sounds are used to blend and segment words for reading and spelling (e.g. c-a-t = cat). Once we feel the children are ready, we will then set the children in groups according to their ability and short sessions will be tailored to meet individual needs.

Handwriting

Reception children are taught the correct formation and orientation of all letters in the alphabet. We teach this in standard print only. Children will learn the cursive script and joined handwriting when they move into Year 1.

Library

Our recently refurbished library is currently closed due to guidance surrounding the spread of coronavirus, but we hope to soon be able to visit the library as a class and open the system to allow children to borrow books to bring home. All of our library books have barcodes and are part of a computerised system, whereby each child has their own account. New books may only be borrowed once the previous book has been returned. Lost or damaged books will incur a replacement charge. We will let you know once the library is fully open and children will begin bringing books home.

Uniform

Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct uniform every day. This includes shoes and hair accessories. Your child should wear black and comfortably fitting school shoes for every day activities at school. They will change into plimsolls or trainers as part of their PE kit

on PE days. Long hair for both boys and girls should be tied back for school. Hair accessories must also be in school colours (dark green) and we would ask that the recent craze for large fashion bows are not worn to school. Earrings are also not part of our school uniform and should not be worn during school hours. If you insist on your child wearing earrings to school, we will need you to sign a disclaimer accepting all responsibility for any injury. These can be sought from the school office.

PE Kit

Please bring PE backpacks to school at the beginning of each half term, and we will send them home at the end of each half term. PE kit consists of a white t-shirt with school logo, green shorts and black plimsolls or trainers. For outdoor sessions and during the colder winter months, children may wish to have a pair of dark green jogging bottoms also in their PE backpack. All long hair must be tied back for school, but especially for PE. As PE kits only come home every half term, please could you also check your child's shoes occasionally for feet growth.

PE sessions for both Reception classes are on a **Monday** and **Wednesday**.

Welly Boots

As part of our daily routine, Reception children have access to our outdoor classroom just as much as indoors. The doors are always open during free-flow learning time! With the Autumnal weather now approaching, we would ask that all children have a named pair of welly boots in school. These will be kept in a coloured box in our outdoor classroom. Please note that during the much colder and wetter weather and especially in snow, your child will not be allowed outside unless they have a pair of welly boots in school.

Birthdays

As we have achieved Healthy Schools status and with a large variety of allergies in school, it is with regret that children are not allowed to bring in sweets or cakes to give to their friends to celebrate their birthday - please save them for the party! If your child has a packed lunch, we ask that you do not include any nut products; particularly peanut butter in their sandwiches for the above reasons. Thank you.

Tissues

We get through a large quantity of tissues in class, particularly during the winter months. If you are happy to, please could you send in a box of tissues for us to use in the classroom.

Show and Tell

We welcome and celebrate children's achievements, however due to a busy classroom timetable, children should not bring in toys from home unless it is their birthday. Bringing in toys or teddies from home that can't be played with or then get lost in the classroom then causes great upset. Please keep them at home! To acknowledge your child's birthday they may then bring in one toy and a card to share with the class. Occasionally we may ask the children to bring in objects linked to our topic. If this is the case, there will be a letter sent home via bookbags/email.

Parent Helpers

It is with regret that we are unable to invite parent helpers into the classroom due to Government restrictions. If/when this guidance suggests we can, we will let families know the procedure for offering classroom support.

Teaching Staff

In addition to the teachers in Reception, over the course of the year your child will become very familiar with other teaching staff at Sandringham. Mr Seddon, our Higher Level Teaching Assistant will be regularly covering in both classes to allow both teachers time out of class for training and development opportunities.

Important dates and school events are communicated with parents in a fortnightly newsletter from Mrs Money, as well as being available on the school website and through school comms email. Please refer to these regularly as means of keeping up to date with school news.

We warmly welcome all our families to Sandringham.

Kind Regards

Miss Randles, Miss Hardy-Trodd and the Reception team

Please do not hesitate to ask us any questions. We are always here to help!



Miss S Randles
Early Years Leader
Hedgehogs Teacher



Miss E Hardy-Trodd
Moles Teacher



Mrs L Bleser
Learning Support Assistant



Mrs S McClelland
Learning Support Assistant



Mrs D Sewrey
Learning Support Assistant



Mrs E Wilde
Learning Support Assistant



Mr J Seddon
HLTA

WE HOPE THAT YOU AND YOUR CHILD ENJOY YOUR YEAR WITH US!

The Reception Team