



Tenterfield Nursery School

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Headteacher: Eleanor Williams

News on the 9th September 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am thrilled to be writing to you as the new Headteacher of Tenterfield Nursery and Children's Centre and I look forward to meeting and getting to know you and your children over the coming weeks. We have had a busy summer here at Tenterfield with Holiday Club providing exciting opportunities and activities to children during July and August. The team at Tenterfield have been working hard to ensure the nursery environment is filled with engaging opportunities designed to help your child settle into nursery life easily.

We would like to welcome all our new families and welcome back those returning after the holidays. We look forward to hearing all about what you have been up to over the summer break. I am sure that those of you who attended Children's Centre events and Holiday Club will join me in saying a huge thank you to the team for the wide range of activities on offer over the holidays. This term is set to be a busy and exciting one and we are looking forward to involving you in your child's learning as they begin their time at Tenterfield. Attached to this letter are some suggestions of things you might like to comment on if you spot your child doing something special at home. Please do write it down to share with us so that we can put it in their special learning book. If you have any photographs that you would like to add you can bring them in or email them to us admin@tenterfield.herts.sch.uk and we will print them for you. We hope that the children's books become a shared celebration of their achievements from both home and school.

The Tenterfield Team are all looking forward to working with you in the coming year, please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Best wishes
Mrs Williams

Dates for the diary

- ★ Friday 29th September - Macmillan coffee morning and afternoon, more information to follow.
- ★ Monday 2nd October - Harvest Festival, more information to follow.
- ★ Tuesday 3rd October - Photo day
- ★ Monday 9th October - Red group parent Consultations.
- ★ Tuesday 10th October - Green group parent consultations.
- ★ Wednesday 11th October - Blue group parent consultations.
- ★ Thursday 12th October - Orange group parent consultations.
- ★ Friday 13th October - Yellow group parent consultations.
- ★ **Please sign up for a time at the office**
- ★ Friday 20th October - EYFS Open Day, more information to follow.
- ★ Friday 3rd November - Special learning book sharing.
- ★ Friday 17th November - Nursery & Wraparound closed (Occasional Day).

Children's centre

The children's centre team are available to offer support and advice on all areas of parenting to families with children age 0-5. If you feel you would benefit from some support with your child's sleep, eating, toileting, behaviour or anything else please pop into the children's centre and someone will be able to have a chat or arrange to come and visit you at home.

We also offer regular stay and learn sessions and courses including first aid and behaviour support. Please see the link to the children's centre on our website.

News on the 9th

To keep you informed about events that are happening and dates for your diary I will be sending out a monthly newsletter on the 9th of each month (or closest to if it falls on a weekend). This means that you will know when to expect a letter and if for some reason you have not received one via your child or parent mail please speak to a member of staff.

Harvest Festival

As advance notice we will be holding a Harvest Festival service at St Marys Church in the village on Monday 2nd October at 9:30 to which all parents will be invited. Further details will be sent out but as people may want to arrange time off work we wanted to give you as much notice as possible. The service will last for approximately half an hour. Before this visit we will be walking the children down to familiarise them with the church and show them where we will be sitting and singing. We will let you know when this date is confirmed with St Marys as we may ask for volunteers to attend the pre visit with us. Look out for a sign up sheet under the canopy in the next couple of weeks.

School photographs

On Tuesday 3rd October Angela Bonner will be coming in to take individual photographs of the children which you will have the option to purchase in time for Christmas. If you would like to have your child's photograph taken with brothers and sisters Angela will have some times available before and after school. Please sign up for a time at the office.

Parent mail

At the beginning of term we need to test the new database to check all registrations have been added successfully. You should receive a test e mail this week and we would be grateful if you could confirm you have received it by letting your child's teacher know when you drop them off at nursery. Please also check your junk mail box as occasionally they can end up in the wrong place! If you have any problems please let us know as future newsletters will be sent electronically if you have signed up for parent mail.

Speech and Language Therapist

As you may be aware we work with a number of professionals beyond the nursery e.g. educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, physiotherapists and early support teams to ensure every child's needs are met. We are very lucky this year to be able to continue to directly employ a Speech and Language therapist, Marie Culligan, to work with the staff and children in the nursery, regularly throughout the term. We are aiming to use this support to provide additional training for staff, to directly support children in the setting and to work with parents to support your children at home. If you would like to talk to Marie about any queries you may have relating to speech and language development please let me, or Mrs Brankin know and we can arrange a time for you to have a chat with her.

Wraparound news

October half term holiday club forms will be available from Monday 11th September outside the office. **Please return your forms by Friday 22nd September for priority booking. After this date places will be offered out to other families. Spaces are limited.**



A reminder from the office...

If you have not yet handed in your:
Parent mail form
Birth certificate or
3/4 year free funding form

Please bring them in as soon as possible so that we can ensure everyone's details are accurate on our system.

Parent consultations

You will see that dates have been set for parent consultations in October. These meetings are a chance for you to meet with your child's key person to discuss how they have settled in to their new groups and to talk about things they are doing really well with and areas we are helping them to develop further. These meetings take place each term but if in the meantime there is ever anything you wish to talk about or have a message to pass on please speak to Mrs Brankin or myself at the door. If you need a longer conversation with the key person we can arrange a time with the office or the key worker will call you back when they are able to come out of the nursery. The beginning of sessions can be busy, especially when settling new children in so it may not always be possible for the staff to have a long conversation with you at this time but they will always call you back if you need to speak to them.

Snack donations

As a nursery school we are not entitled to receive free fruit and vegetables through the government scheme as primary schools do. However we feel snack time is an important time of the day for the children; a chance to share the healthy eating message and to encourage them to try a wide variety of new and familiar fruit and vegetable snacks. To help us to provide a range of interesting snacks for the children we would be grateful if you could bring in a donation of £2.00 per week for your child. There will be a money box in the entrance and we would appreciate it if you could pop your money in the pot on your way in or out. If you would rather pay for a half term, term, or year at a time please speak to the office. Thank you

Staff at Tenterfield

Mrs Brankin is our Assistant head here at Tenterfield and as part of her role also has responsibility for Special Educational Needs. She will be working alongside each group in the nursery this year and will also be running our nurture group. If you ever have any queries or concerns about areas of your child's development she will be happy to offer advice and support. We are sending home a sheet with all the key adults in the nursery to help you get to know the staff. We sometimes have students and volunteers working with us too and will let you know if someone will be with us for a long period of time or on a placement from college.

Cloakroom space

As you are aware we have a large number of children attending the nursery and limited coat peg space. Unless it is a drawstring bag could you please take home your child's bag at the end of each session. This ensures that there is enough space for the morning or afternoon children to hang up their own bags and coats. Wellies can be left at nursery as we are able to store them on welly racks outside. Drawstring bags in all group colours can be purchased from the office if required at a cost of £2.00

Friends of Tenterfield

We have been very lucky to have strong support from parents in the past who have helped to fundraise throughout the year to fund additional resources and experiences for the children. If you feel this is something you would like to get involved in please speak to me so that I can give you more information and we can start to plan some events for the year ahead. Thank you

Mobile phones reminder

At Tenterfield we ask that mobile phones are not used within the nursery building where children are present.

This is for two main reasons:

We feel it is important that your child has your attention during drop off and collection times, or when attending a group, and that you are available to speak to the staff if necessary. Secondly with the increased use of camera phones we want to protect all children in our care. There are some children, who for various reasons, must not have their picture used on the internet. By requesting mobiles are not used we know that we are doing all we can to prevent images appearing online without parents knowledge or consent.

Thank you for your help in keeping Tenterfield a safe place for all children.



Staying Safe

As you are aware it is very busy at drop off and collection times at nursery. To help to keep our children safe please make sure you stay aware of all children around you and keep the gates closed as you leave. We make sure the children are ready to leave with you by putting on coats and before collection time and this helps them to develop their independence and hopefully avoids too much congestion in the corridor area.

We appreciate that you may not want to wake a sleeping baby in a buggy to come and collect an older child but if you could ask another parent to watch them whilst you come into nursery it prevents the hall way becoming a fire risk with pushchairs inside.

Packed Lunches

If your child is staying with us for lunch, please can you make sure that their packed lunchbox is clearly named. The packed lunch boxes will be stored in our fridges until lunchtime to keep them fresh and cool so it is not necessary to put any ice blocks in them. We will also be providing cold water for the children so no bottled drinks please.

We do ask that you try to keep the children's lunches healthy, so please do not include any crisps, chocolate or cakes. There is a 'healthy packed lunch' guide from the Food Trust available from the office if you would like some ideas!

We do have some children in the Nursery with allergies so please can you make sure that there are no nuts in the food you provide, this includes peanut butter.

We will put any food your child hasn't managed to eat back into their lunchbox so that you can keep track on what they have eaten that day.



Wellington boots and shoes



Thank-you to those that have brought in wellies as the Summer definitely seems to be over! Please can you make sure that they are clearly named. Can you also make sure that your child wears Velcro fastening or slip-on shoes that they can put on themselves. This means they can be much more independent and get out to play in the garden quickly. Trying to help 40 children put shoes that are all lace up means a long queue of waiting children!!