



Letter from Mrs Angela

Sorry for the lateness of this newsletter. I hope I have been keeping you in touch with what has been happening with little letters and Sunbeams News on Tapestry.

The Autumn colours are looking lovely and the children have been doing lots of learning about the fruits and changes of autumn. Winter is looming so watch out for some Christmas dates in the diary at the end of this letter.

Thank you to all the parents who attended Sunbeams and Supertots annual meeting in September. It was a great turn out and good to be able to keep parents informed of how the group is doing.

Our autumn fair, Fruits of the Forest was blessed with good weather on Saturday. Thank you to everyone who came along or provided cakes and toys for the stalls. The bacon grill was very busy and it looks like we have made £390 which will go towards the replacement of the pre-school gas heater with modern heater inverter which will also provide airconditioning in summer. This term we have been very happy to welcome Jan Keen, formally of Dorset music services, for Little Music Maker sessions on Mondays morning. This is proving to be very popular with the children and after a little break in December we plan to start the sessions again in January.

I hope to see some of you at our new stay and play sessions in November. Also look out for the special offers below.

Regards Angela Hibberd



Jan's Music session



Forest fruits face painting and mountains of cakes



Autumn special offers –

Christmas shopping sessions or one off sessions for other appointments are available at Sunbeams and maybe especially useful to parents of younger children. If you are interested or know of someone who maybe please email for more details, alderholtsunbeams@gmail.com

Introduce a friend to Sunbeams – and get a £10 voucher

We have found that the best form of advertising is parents telling their friends how great Sunbeams is. We would like to start rewarding parents who introduce a friend to Sunbeams by giving a reward of a £10 Sunbeams voucher this which will be credited to your account, when your friends child starts attending Sunbeams.

What's new this Autumn –

Stay and play – week of the 6th November – please take another opportunity to stay and play with your children and make a glittery firework pictures.

Winter Menu – The new winter menu will be used from 30th Oct. If you want to see what great nutritionally balanced meals are available at Sunbeams please look on our website or the reception notice board. It is excellent value at £2.50 for main and pudding

Cooking School, Thursday's cooking sessions have been a great success, so we are looking into having a second cooking session on Fridays.

Packed Lunches – Parents do not need to send in a drink with their child's lunch.

Sunbeams provides water and milk throughout the day in line with healthy teeth guidelines. Grapes, olives and cherry tomatoes need to be cut in half at least but in quarters is even better. Please see picture for guidance.



Wellies in the pre-school room, to help keep the carpet and rugs clean during the winter months we have started a new system with foot wear. Children will no longer wear shoes outside but will change into welly boots to go into the playground. The children will change into shoes when they come back inside. This will also help the children to become skilled in putting on their own shoes. Please send in a pair of wellies for you child to keep at Sunbeams and make sure their name is written inside. If your child arrives in wellies they will need to take the boots outside to the changing area so they are available to put on when they go outside.

Child Observations in the pre-school room – From 30th Oct we will be trialing a new system in the pre-school room. Each week two or three children will be observed by all the pre-school staff as they interact and learn with the adults. Please look out for the new parent form about events and interests at home which we are asking parents to complete the week before their child's focus week. You will still see these observations on Tapestry.

St. James school movie club – it is now possible for children 3-4 year olds who are happy to sit through a movie to go to this once a month film show. The next show will be Friday 10th Nov. at 3pm, finishing by 5pm. Tickets are available from the school office.

Bedtime stories at St. James School – on Wednesday 22nd Nov. 5.45-6.45pm. Sunbeams staff will be helping to read stories and Sunbeams pre-school children are welcome to come along. More details will follow.

St James First School Open Day – 15th November 2017, please go along and take a look at the school.

Reminders

Family room - **Slippers** – with the colder weather creeping in and to avoid the stubbing of toes, the children in the family room need slippers to wear indoors. These can be left at Sunbeams. Please remember to label the slippers.

Winter clothing – With the autumn weather approaching it would be beneficial for the children to have good quality waterproofs. We have found in the past that showerproof coats and jackets do not protect the children from the wet weather sufficiently. We do spend lots of time outdoors in all weather and the children need to be comfortable and dry. Makes such as Regatta, Berghaus and Craghoppers offer good protection as well as some others.

Labelling: Please make sure your children's clothes, shoes etc. are labelled clearly. We also ask parents to provide a change of footwear for indoor and outdoor wear, which are easy to remove.

SNOW - If we have snow this winter and you are unsure as to whether the pre-school will be open our policy is that if St. James School closes so do we. St. James will inform the local radio station and they will regularly run through the list of closed schools. Sunbeams will send out texts as soon as a decision is made. So please make sure we have an up to date mobile phone number for you.

Resources - We are looking for some items that would be very helpful in making craft. Ideally we would like some coffee jar lids, cleaned cat food trays or similar. If you have any these we could recycle that would be great. Also if you have any out of date pasta/flour/lentils or pulses, these would be great for our messy play. Many thanks.

Spring Term Charges – From 2nd Jan – 29th March is 12 weeks and Early year funding for 15 or 30 hours only pays for 11 weeks for the spring term. In March the last 4 days of term will be charged to parents. This will be invoiced at our regular hourly rate.

Term Dates 2017-18 and Autumn Events

Mon. 23rd – Fri. 27th Oct. inclusive - Half term break

6th Nov – 10th Nov – Stay and play – stay a while after you drop your child at Sunbeams.

Mon 13th Nov – Jan's last music session until after Christmas

Wed. 22nd Nov – books at bedtime

Tues. 5th Dec – Sunbeams singing Carols at Forest Edge Café and Christmas Jumper day

Tues. 5th Dec, 1.45pm – Sunbeams children go to watch St. James Christmas show

Thurs. 7th Dec. – Christmas Lunch and Jumper day

Tues. 12th Dec – 1.45 – Sunbeams Pre-school Christmas

Wed. 13th Dec 3pm – Carols and Father Christmas Grotto at St. James hall

Tues 19th Dec – Family room – Annual Christmas Tea

Fri. 15th Dec. – Last day of Term -Sunbeams remains open for children who attend for 50 weeks a year.

Sunbeams closes for Christmas Fri. 22nd Dec at 4pm.

Sunbeams is closed for 1 week over the Christmas week – 25th Dec – 1st Jan.

Tues. 2nd Jan – Sunbeams opens and Term time starts

Would you be interested in purchasing a Christmas Pudding or Cake made by the loving hands of Sunbeams??? Please let Mrs Angela Know if you are.



