

Welcome back to Tudhoe Moor Nursery School

Welcome back after our Christmas holiday. I hope you all had a wonderful time and are looking forward to 2024!

I would like to welcome our new children who have just joined Tudhoe Moor Nursery School this week – I'm sure your child will settle in well and enjoy their time here. We are looking forward to getting to know you all and our children can't wait to make some new friends!

This half term is a lot quieter than last one, but still lots of lovely things to look forward to!

Mrs Hymers- Head Teacher

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 3rd January	First day back
Monday 12th February	Food tasting – Chinese New Year
Tuesday 6th February Wednesday 7th February	Bedtime stories at 5pm
W/C 12th February	Parent consultation meetings (letter to follow)
Thursday 15th February	Break up for half-term holiday
Monday 26th February	First day back for children

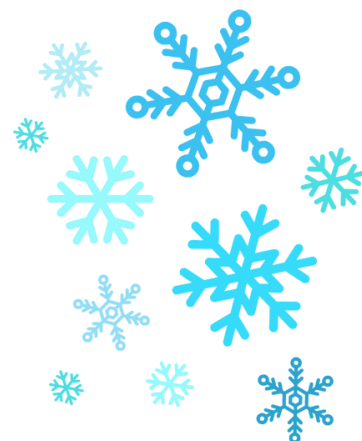
School places – September 2024 only

REMINDER: Applications for your child's place at Primary School close on **Monday 15th January 2024.**

Information about how to apply can be found in the porch. If you need any help with applications, please speak to Mrs Hymers.

What are we learning this half- term?

This half term we are learning about winter. We have chosen some lovely key texts to read such as The Gruffalo's Child, The Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud and Lost and found. We will be becoming 'mini scientists' by taking part in lots of experiments exploring concepts such as freezing, melting, floating and sinking.



We will also be celebrating Chinese New Year (Saturday 10th February) with a food tasting session in school on Monday 12th February.

We will be further developing our understanding of number by counting and comparing quantities. We will also be learning about numerals and starting to link these to sets.



For our new starters, we have a big focus on sharing stories and learning nursery rhymes such as Wind the Bobbin up and I'm a Little Teapot. We will also be singing counting songs with numbers up to five such as Five Little Snowmen and Five Little Snowflakes.

We are spending lots of time ensuring that children get used to our routines and begin to build relationships within their key worker group and the wider nursery. We will be exploring the nursery environment, both indoors and outdoors and making choices about activities that we would like to try.

Parent governor vacancy

We have a vacancy in our governing body for a parent to join us. The governors meet once every term to discuss the school's progress and how it can be improved.

Each governor also has a link area in which they meet with staff to discuss and monitor. No previous experience is necessary, but a keen interest in the wellbeing of our pupils is essential.

If you are interested in joining us, please speak to Miss Bond for more information.

Bedtime Stories

You are invited to join us for a very special 'Bedtime Story' event! This will give you the opportunity to share stories with your child and to hear some new stories read by staff. To make this event extra special we would like to bring your child dressed in their pyjamas with a teddy, a blanket, a torch and two books. We will have spares of these if anyone needs them.



Tuesday 7th February or Wednesday 8th February

All sessions will start at 5 p.m. and should last no longer than 45 minutes

A sign up sheet will go up in the porch for you to choose which day is best for you and to make sure we have enough milk and cookies for everyone!

Unfortunately, this event is for our 3 and 4 year olds only. Staff will be reading special stories with our 2 year olds during school time, they will be able to attend the event next year when they are older.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will take place the week commencing 12th February. This will give you the opportunity to meet with your child's Key Worker to discuss their progress. If you have any worries or concerns before this time please know you can speak to a staff member at any time. Your child's teacher will contact you to book in a slot that suits you.

Wraparound Clubs

Places are available for our Little Stars Wraparound Care. Breakfast Club is from 7.45am till 9.00am and costs £5.00 per day. After School Club is from 3.00pm to 5.30pm and costs £10.00 per day. A shorter After School Club until 4pm costs £5.00. If you would like to sign up for any of these clubs, please speak to a staff member.



Snack money



We ask for a voluntary contribution of £2 per week for 30 hour children and £1 per week for 15 hour children. This money is used to provide a snack for the children in the morning and the afternoon. We also use it to buy additional resources, e.g. items for baking or special activities in nursery; without these contributions we would not be able to do this. You can put your donation in the money box at the front door or make payment via the Parent Pay app.

Star of the Week



Every Monday, we will celebrate one child's achievements from each group. The child will receive a special certificate and sticker and also go on our wall of fame in the porch! Staff look out for children that are kind, try their best, join in with group time, have made a new friend or been a good listener among lots of other reasons.



Names in children's clothes

Please remember to put your child's name in all of their belongings; jumpers, coats, scarves, and shoes. We have several children with the same shoes and jumpers and they can easily be muddled up! Please make sure that you put your child's name in everything to help us dress your children in the right things.



Also if your child comes home in nursery clothes after having an accident here at nursery school please make sure that you return them as soon as possible as we need them regularly.



Facebook Page

A little reminder that we have a Facebook page; hopefully more families will be able to keep up to date with events and diary dates. There will also be some posts about things that we have been doing that might be of interest... keep watching and like our page.



Forest School



Forest school sessions will be re-starting during week of 8th January. Children will be outside for half a day per week learning about the environment, using tools, planting seeds and lots more! This is only for our three and four year olds.

Each group will have the same session each week. We would like to ask that your child wears warm clothes on this day. We will provide waterproof protective outerwear for your child which should protect their clothes.

For any questions about what the sessions entail, please speak to Mrs Phillips. A floorbook will be displayed in the porch to see what children have been doing. Red group will be split into two sessions, Miss Franklin will let you know which day your child will be doing.

Purple and Red	Tuesday PM
Yellow	Wednesday AM
Red	Thursday PM

Parent Pay

As many of you will be aware, we are moving away from taking cash in school. Emails have been sent to parents with details on how to register for your account. If you have not received an email, please speak to Miss Millar. Once everyone is activated, we will also be using the app to schedule events in nursery.

Parents comments

If you have any questions or comments about anything in the newsletter or nursery in general; or you would like further information about anything to do with nursery, please speak to a member of staff or contact us on: 01388 436000 or e-mail: tudhoemoor.nursery@tudhoemoor.durham.sch.uk



If you would like to have a more in-depth discussion about anything, you can make an appointment to speak to with your child's key worker.