

## Welcome to Tudhoe Moor Nursery School

Welcome back after our Christmas holiday. I hope you all had a wonderful time and are looking forward to 2025!

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

Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> or Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Bedtime Stories
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Pancake Day
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Chinese Food Tasting
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Consultations (3.00-6.00pm)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Break up for half-term holiday
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	First day back

## Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will take place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February from 3.00pm to 6.00pm. 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.

## Spread the cost!

Our summer holiday club will be open again for the first four weeks of the summer holiday. Chat to Erin now to book a place and spread the cost (rather than a large July invoice!)

### **Snack Donation**



We would like to kindly ask for a donation of £1 per week (or £2 for a 30 hour child) to help pay for our daily snacks and activities. Children have healthy snacks as well as helping to buy playdough ingredients and lots more. You can give your money to Erin in the office or leave it in the tin next to our front door. You can also make payment by bank transfer.

### **Food Tasting**

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February, children will be offered a different snack as part of our curriculum. Children will be learning about both Pancake Day and Chinese New Year and so will taste the following items:

- Pancakes- homemade and scotch pancakes
  - Prawn crackers
  - Vegetable spring rolls
    - Noodles

If you would not like your child to take part in this tasting, please let a staff member know and we will give them our usual snack for that day instead.

### **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 you 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.



**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 11th February**

All sessions will start at 4.30pm 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!

### School Places

**REMINDER:** Applications for your child's place at Primary School close on **Thursday 15th January 2025.**

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 about 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 (Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February) with a food tasting session in school on the same day.

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.



### Staffing Changes

We have new staff that have joined us in January:



Miss Kelly Spencer  
SEND Practitioner



Miss Shannon Richardson  
Baby Room leader



Miss Ashleigh Storey  
Lunchtime Supervisor



Miss Sofia Grayson  
Apprentice (Twos)



Miss Ellie Darlington  
Apprentice (Twos)



Mrs Jenny Maher  
Early Years Practitioner  
(Returned from mat. leave)

### **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 see a member of staff or contact us on: 01388 436000 or e-mail: [tudhoemoor.nursery@tudhoemoor.durham.sch.uk](mailto: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 or Mrs Hymers. (Head Teacher)