Friday 12th September 2025

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to Nursery !

A warm welcome to families and children old and new to Southbroom Nursery. We hope that the children joining us for the first time are settling in well and that returning children are enjoying being back with their friends and practitioners. This year, we are excited that the Nursery Class team is composed of Miss Plumley Nursery Lead and Mrs Bailey EYFS practitioner. You will find details of our curriculum coverage for the term on our curriculum web. Below is some useful information to you off to a flying start this term:

**Settling your child at Nursery**

Starting nursery is a big change for both you and your child and so it can often present families with some challenges in the early days of joining our setting. Likewise, children returning back after the summer break may need some time to re-settle. The good news is that we understand and have lots of ways to help you and your child settle quickly and happily with us. If you are concerned about anything to do with your child’s early days with us, please don’t hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

**Key Person**

At Southbroom Infants we use the key person approach to help your child to feel individual and cared for whilst they are at nursery. Your child’s key person can help your child by:

* Helping them to settle in when he/she first arrives at nursery.
* Helping them with their personal care, for instance changing nappies, going to the toilet, washing hands.
* Observing their play and providing suitable resources and activities.
* Keeping up-to-date records about their learning
* Encouraging them to develop independent skills, such as putting on their own shoes/coat.

Once the children are settled, we will inform you who your child’s key person will be.

**Dress for Mess - Not to Impress!’**

Our Nursery provides many daily opportunities for children to have fun indoors and out of doors. On a typical day we might be digging in the sand pit, making ‘chocolate’ pies in our mud kitchen, splashing in puddles, chasing bubbles, painting or printing. As you will realise, nursery children engaged in these activities are naturally likely to get their clothes grimy or wet at times, so we kindly ask that you send your child to nursery in shoes and clothing suitable for indoor and outdoor and sometimes messy play. Please send your child to nursery in sensible footwear that is easy for them to take on and off, **please no lace up shoes/trainers.**  Soft canvas shoes are safer than open-toe sandals when children are using bikes or playing with wooden blocks for example, and wellington boots are essential when the weather turns rainy. A named pair of wellingtons can be left in nursery.

We encourage all our nursery children to wear our uniform which is practical. This consists of a bottle green polo shirt, bottle green sweatshirt and sensible bottoms. Uniform with the Southbroom logo can be purchased from Scholars. Clothes worn to nursery should be practical and easy for your child to take off **please no dungarees**. This enables staff to change children who are still in nappies easily and also promotes independence for our older nursery children. Children should spare clothes to nursery in a carrier bag that can stay on their peg. **Please remember to label clearly all items sent to nursery belonging to your child.**

**Toilet Talk**

We kindly ask parents of children who are not yet toilet-trained to please make sure your child’s nursery changing bag contains sufficient nappies, cream and baby wipes. We also understand that toilet-trained children can often have the odd mishap, or just need a little help when they go to the bathroom. Our staff are of course very happy to do this, but we would ask you to send your child to nursery in suitable clothes to make undressing/dressing easier and quicker.Eric (the children’s bowel and bladder charity) now have very accessible podcasts covering a range of topics to support parents struggling with toilet training or toileting problems. [**You can access these here.**](https://eric.org.uk/podcast/)

**Healthy Food for All**

Nursery children are offered a nutritious snack and milk every day. For those children staying for lunch we encourage parents to provide nutritious and healthy packed lunches. [Lunchbox ideas can be found here.](https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/) Alternatively, please speak to a member of staff if you wish to book a school hot dinner.

Please can we ask that you prepare items such as grapes, cherry tomatoes, strawberries etc. by cutting them in half length ways to reduce the risk of children choking on them.

In the EYFS we positively promote oral health and good dental hygiene and would welcome your support with this matter. Drink containers must be named and should contain water. Please avoid fruit juices or squash which are known to cause tooth-decay in children. This is in line with EYFS statutory framework.

**Keeping every child safe – Important information about nuts**  From time to time we have children in nursery who present with mild to severe nut allergies. We ask therefore that packed lunches do not contain any foods containing nuts. Many foods have traces of nuts in them without us realising so we would encourage you to read the labels carefully on all packed lunch items before sending them in to nursery.

**Pick up and Drop off**

At Southbroom Nursery we take the safety of your child and the security of our nursery very seriously and have rigid protocols in place for times where children are potentially vulnerable such as at drop-off and pick up. If you or other family members, already known to us, are unable to collect your child at the end of their session, we ask that you inform the nursery as soon possible to advise us of the change. We will need to know details of the adult who will be arriving at nursery in your place. We will never allow your child to leave the nursery with someone we do not know without your clear permission.

As you will appreciate, the mornings are a busy time, this means that we cannot always speak with each parent directly as we are busy seeing the children in. Quick messages can be passed on however, if you wish to speak to about other matters, please may this wait until pick up as there is more time available then. Messages can also be sent on class Dojo.

**SWAY**

We will continue to keep you up dated with what children have been doing in preschool via the fortnightly Sway newsletter which is easily accessible on a mobile device.

**Class Dojo**

If your child is new to nursery, you will receive a login request asking you to sign up to Class Dojo. Please remember to check this regularly.

**Wow Slips**

These slips are designed to share wow moments from home. This term there will be a basket of these slips placed just by the door, please help yourselves. We will also send some home in your child’s book bag. Wow Slips can be filled in and added to your child’s learning journey.

**Stay and Play Sessions**

These sessions will be held at the end of each term and are a lovely way for you to see what your child has been learning in school. This term’s stay and play will be held on Friday 10th October 2.15-2.45. More details to follow.

**Reading**

This term your child will be bringing home a story book to share with you. Books will be changed on a Friday morning. You may like to purchase a book bag from the office or alternatively you can purchase your own. Having a book bag ensures that our books are kept in a good condition, it also gets children used to bringing one to school ready for Reception. We will also be sending home this year a nursery rhyme book which will contain the new rhymes that the children have been learning in nursery so that you can share these at home.

I hope you have all the information that you need for the term ahead. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to me at either the beginning or end of the school day.

**Diary Dates**

Nursery curriculum information meeting Wednesday 17th September 3.15-3.45.

Nursery stay and play/learning journey sharing event Friday 10th October 2.15-2.45.

More details to follow nearer the time.

We hope that you find this information useful. If you have any questions, please speak to a member of the nursery team or myself

Kind regards,

Miss Morgan

Reception Teacher/Early Years Lead