

# Stoneygate Nursery School



January 2025

Spring Newsletter 2

**We are well into January now** and the cold weather doesn't seem to be easing up....you will be pleased to know that it is not stopping the children having lots of fun in our outdoor classrooms though! We have a few things going on between now and February half term so please take a look at the diary dates below to keep up to date.

## Dates for the Diary

SEND Group: *Colourful Footsteps*

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January– 13<sup>th</sup> February 1pm–2.30pm

Valentine's Stay and Play session:

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 10–11am and 2–3pm – if your child is not in on a Wednesday, please feel free to come along and join us!

Progress Meetings:

Please see Class DoJo for further info.

Nursery closes for half term:

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 3.30pm

Nursery reopens:

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 8.30am

## Attendance

It is no secret that children need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education – at Stoneygate, we are no different. We are asking for the support of all parents in improving attendance and punctuality levels, as we believe that this is one of the main ways in which our children will be happy at nursery and achieve their full potential academically and socially. When children are absent/late, they not only miss out on essential learning and development, but can find it difficult to get back into routine and sustain friendship groups, which leads to them feeling unsettled. Missing just ten minutes of nursery a day through being late is the equivalent of missing two whole weeks of learning per year!

We monitor attendance regularly of all our children regularly and this week, you will be receiving a letter home about your child's attendance. If you have any questions or need any support, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

## Ofsted

After waiting for Ofsted to pay us a visit since May last year, we can confirm that they have both been and gone! We would just like to say a big thank you to all the parents who filled out the parental questionnaire online, or who spoke with the inspectors at pick up/drop off. Your children were their wonderful selves and were happy to chat and show the inspectors what they were learning. We are still awaiting the final report which we will share with you as soon as we receive it.

## Stay and Play

It is our first Stay and Play session of the year on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February. If you are a new parent to Stoneygate, our Stay and Play sessions offer you the chance to come and join your child in the classroom and take part in some fun activities with them. Stay and Play gives you an insight into our school life and allows you to see how your child interacts in our setting. You will also have the opportunity to meet other parents as well as chat to the staff in the classroom that support your child in their development and learning. We do hope you can join us! Remember, even if Wednesday is not a day that your child usually attends school, we are happy for you to come along to one of the sessions!

### Progress Meetings

Progress meetings are being held over the next few weeks in school – your child's Teacher/Room Leader will have posted information on Class Dojo about this. It is important you make the time to attend these meetings in order to ensure you are up to date with how your child's development – both socially and academically – is progressing. Progress meetings not only give the staff chance to share your child's targets with you so that you can help support these at home, but give you opportunity to ask anything you may need help or advice with.

If you are struggling to attend an appointment in person, then please don't hesitate to contact us and we will try our best to make alternative arrangements for you.

Thank you!

### Water Reminder



In line with statutory DFE guidance, please can we remind you that your child should only be sent into nursery with plain water in their bottles – no juice or flavoured water. We are more than happy to fill/refill your child's bottle should they need it. There are many reasons why this is a statutory requirement and why it is the best drink for your child to be consuming; if you wish to chat to us about this, then please do pop in or contact us and we will be happy to discuss this with you.

Please also ensure that your child's bottle has their name on – we do have several children with the same bottles in nursery. Thank you for your support and cooperation with this!

## Classroom Learning

### Seedlings Class

In Seedlings Class, the children have started to read a new text called 'I Like the Rain' by Sarah Nelson. They have also started to learn the words to the nursery rain 'Rain, Rain, Go Away'.

Why not see if you can talk about the rain with your child? Where does it come from? What clothes should we wear? Better still – you could go puddle jumping!



### Oaks Class



In oaks, Emma's group of children are continuing to familiarise themselves with 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers and will be starting to sequence the story themselves later on this week.

Asma's children are really enjoying their story of 'That's not my Penguin!' and are becoming really good at joining in with the text.

Why not see if your child can tell you about their story at home? There are links to all stories and rhymes on Class Dojo!