



Dates for your Diary

Extra sessions

- 8 & 9 Nov Parents evening
- 17 Nov Children in need
- 4 Dec Nativity Dress rehearsal
- 5 Dec Nativity
- 19 Dec Pre-School Christmas Party
9.30-12.00pm
- 19 Dec End of Term (12.00, no afternoon pre-school)
- 4 Jan Start of term
- 13 Jan Deadline for school applications (Sept 2017)
- 29th Jan Cut off date for proof of address in school catchment
- 12-16 Feb Half Term (Pre-School closed)
- 1 Mar World book day
- 29 Mar End of term (12.00, no afternoon pre-school)
- 15 Apr School places announced

January is often the time when parents look to change their sessions. Any remaining morning sessions will generally be taken up in January, though there will be afternoon sessions available throughout the year.

To request changes to your sessions, please visit www.teatimers.com/pscr. This applies even if you have previously indicated you wanted to make changes.

From 10th November, we will open up any remaining space to new families.

Parents evening

Parents evenings on the 8th and 9th November. If you wish to come, please book a time when you next come in. If you don't do drop off / collection, please email or call during preschool hours.

Mrs Black

Mrs Black will be leaving us in November, after 7 years, to take up a full time role at Jungle mania in Bourne End. Hopefully some of you will see her there.

Clothes - name them or loose them

Every year, Teatimers has to send between £300 and £500 worth of unclaimed clothes for recycling. The majority of this clothing is from pre-school children whose parents have not named their clothes. Jumpers, jackets, cardigans, hats, coats and gloves are the most frequently recycled.

We do not have space to store the amount of lost property we get. Once a month, the lost property bin is emptied and anything that has been there for more than a month is sent for recycling.



Lunchboxes

Lunchboxes can be a minefield for many families. What to put in, how much to give and how many choices can be a real challenge. Pre-Schools and Schools are obliged to promote healthy eating, and now is the time to be forming good habits.

1. Water is the only drink allowed at lunchtime and we provide fresh water in a cup. You don't need to provide your own. We do check any supplied drinks and return non water ones unopened.
2. Caught in the sandwich trap. Just can't think of anything else? Take a little time now to have a think and look for ideas. The majority of our best eaters do not have sandwiches every day.
3. Small amounts of treats alongside a healthy lunch are OK. Something equivalent to a small square of chocolate or a small kit-kat / wafer is the most you should send.
4. If it doesn't look like a piece of fruit, then please question whether it is really healthy. If fruit has been dried, flattened, processed and coated, then it's not fruit. For example, a Fruit winder contains more sugar than a strawberry bootlace.
5. Please do not send your child in with 30 different things in the hope that they will eat something. It just sends the message that they can pick, and leave whatever they want.
6. If they don't like their lunch, your child will not throw a wobbly, scream the place down and throw their food everywhere. We will spot their problem and help them to eat something.
7. When we spot they really don't like something, you will be informed.
8. Lunchtime is a learning experience, both socially and nutritionally. We ensure that the savoury is eaten before the sweet.

More information and food ideas available on <http://www.teatimers.com/pre-school/lunchboxes/>

BAGS

Your child has a peg in the lobby for their bag and coat. In your bag there needs to be a change of clothes. If your child is in nappies or toilet training then don't forget wet wipes and extra clothes as appropriate.

The peg is yours for the duration of the session, but you must take everything home with you. Up to 80 other children will use those pegs between 3pm and 9am. Your child's possessions will inevitably end up on the wrong peg or in lost property.

Mobile Phones

We do not allow staff, parents or visitors to use a mobile phone whilst in Teatimers unless they are in our office or in an outside area away from our children.

Please remain outside whilst using your phone. If you use your phone whilst in the lobby, you will be expected to take it outside. Children will not be handed over to parents who are making calls on their phones.

School gates and access

Please remember that you may not park on the zig zags outside the school gates in the morning or afternoon. The times when you can park on them are clearly signposted.

There is no right of access for Teatimers parents through little gate to Sandygate close. If it is still open after drop off then you can still use it. At 12 or 3pm, your only access is via the main school gate.

Cold Wet Weather

As the weather begins to change towards winter please remember to send appropriate clothing. We go outside in all but the worst weather.

WOW Moments

WOW moments are a great way for you to tell us when your child does something special or new. In the lobby is a box with WOW slips in it for you to use.

WOW moments are incorporated into the start of each session and celebrated just after register. They also form part of your child's record of achievement.

Please hand any WOW slips into the staff on the door when you arrive.

Security passwords

We do have a system of security passwords for people we don't recognise. We have had a number of families who have forgotten to supply the password to people who are picking up. Please keep a note of what your password is and ask us if you have forgotten.

Yoga and PE clothing

Please remember the following rules:

-Yoga (Wednesday morning) is done without shoes, so please send your child in shoes that are easily removed / put on.

P.E (Monday morning) is done barefoot. In addition to shoes your child can take off / put on, do not send your child in wearing tights as they will have to take them off for PE.

Funding update

Funding rules mean that the 18th and 19th December are not covered by government funding. The cost of these sessions will appear on your bill for the second half of term.

If you get 30 hour funding, reconfirm eligibility when reminded by HMRC. If you forget and lose the extra funding you will be charged full price for your unfunded sessions until the end of the term.

Holidays

Holidays taken during term time are fine. Please give us as much notice as possible - it saves us preparing unnecessary materials and may help out a family who needs emergency cover.

Working in Partnership

It is very important to us to be working together with our Parents to give the best care and developmental chances for children. At this age, parents are still main carers and **educators** for children so working in Partnership is important. Some key points you should know / be aware of are:

- Your child has a keyworker who specifically looks after them. You should know who the keyworker (s) are and what colour group your child is in. This information is available in the lobby.
- Let us know if there is anything going on in your child's life that may be affecting them, or just really relevant right now. We will do the same.
- You can speak to us at drop off or pick up time. If you need longer, speak to us and we can arrange an appointment with your keyworker. You can also leave phone or email messages if appropriate.
- You are welcome to see your child's records at any time.
- If you have a concern or complaint, please raise it sooner rather than later. You can speak to any member of staff, or come straight to your keyworker, Mrs Farrell or Toby.