## St James' Cottage nursery

# Newsletter

March 2023





### Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot believe how fast this year is going, at the end of next week, on the 31st of March, we will be closing for our two-week April holiday.

#### Easter Bonnet

We are so excited to put on our Annual Easter Show! The children have been working really hard on practising their songs and creating beautiful Easter crafts. Invitations have been sent out so keep a look out for them in their book bags. Please let us know as soon as possible if you and your child will join us on the day. If you have not yet received a form, please get in touch.

The show will be held at Holtwood methodist church at **@10:30 am sharp**. Parking and spaces are limited but there is no restriction on who can come to watch. Drop-off will be at the church at 9:00 am. If you need an earlier drop off please don't hesitate to let us know.

There will be a **bake sale** held after the show in the hall, please join us and help raise funds for our school, we have some beautiful plans for our Butterfly room and this will be made possible with your generous contributions. If you are able to **bake or provide cakes** for the bake sale, please do get in touch.

#### This a reminder that show and tell is back...

Your children can bring something special from home to show their friends. Please ensure that the items are safe and small enough to be packed away in their book bags/ lockers. This will be ongoing.

#### Gate

Please can I remind parents and carers to **close** the metal gate behind them when coming into Cottage? This ensures that everyone is kept safe, especially now as we are opening up the locker area for parents to come in and help their children pack their bags away. There is direct access to the road from the front parking lot and it is imperative that the gate is shut behind you immediately as you enter Cottage. Your co-operation with this is much appreciated.

#### After-school bookings

Please note that bookings for the after-school club close at 12:00 pm. If you require an ad-hoc booking please ensure that you contact Claire before 12:00 pm. Exceptions may be made in the case of an emergency. Bookings are subject to availability.

#### **30 Hour Funding**

If your child is turning 3 this term (up to 31st March), they will be entitled to free funding from the summer term (18th April). , you may also qualify for the extra 15 hours (making it 30 hours in total). **Please make sure you apply by the deadline of 31st March 2023.** 

To see if you qualify please visit <u>www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/30hours</u>. If you already receive the 30 hours, you will need to re-register for the summer term. Please let me know if you have any questions.

#### Summer Holiday Club

Plans are underway for our Summer Holiday club. If you would like your child to be placed on the waiting list, please get in touch. This is open to all children aged 3 - 9. Details to follow.

### Dates to remember

Easter Bonnet Parade Wednesday 31st March

<u>Summer term begins:</u> Tuesday 18th March



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#### Reminders

**Telephone numbers**: Please make sure all emergency and contact details are up to date. We do have a Snow Call List in the event of closure due to bad weather. If the school is closed Cottage is closed, you can check online on the Dorset County Council website for information. We will put it on our Facebook page and Tapestry.

Late payment fee: Please ensure your invoice is paid by the **14th** of each month, failure to do so will result in an automatic £10 late payment fee.

**Illness:** Please avoid bringing your child into the setting with any contagious illness i.e. Chicken Pox, conjunctivitis, sickness and diarrhoea or if your child is clearly not well. It is a Government recommendation that **48-hour** elapses after suffering diarrhoea or sickness before returning to the setting to avoid the spread of germs.

**Egg Allergy:** Just a quick reminder that we do have a child with a severe allergy to eggs, this is both in raw form including touching the shell as well as cooked eggs or products containing eggs. Please do not send egg sandwiches or scotch eggs etc in your child's lunch box. Thank you for your support and understanding in this matter.

Nut Allergy: Please avoid sending any foods containing nuts or nut products in your child's lunch box as nut allergies are becoming increasingly common and even the slightest contact with nut products can be dangerous to those children affected. Just to clarify chocolate spread also contain nuts.

Please make sure grapes and cherry tomatoes are cut in half this is to avoid choking.

Dropping off and Picking up: Please make every effort to be on time when dropping off and picking up your child. This keeps disruption to a minimum and avoids unsettling the new children. We also need to keep our staffing levels to the correct adult/child ratio. Please note we need to be informed if anyone else is collecting your child other than normal people for security reason.

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