

# **GREENFYLDE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FIRST SCHOOL**

**Incorporating Cygnets and Sunny Ile Pre Schools**

**SILVER STREET, ILMINSTER, SOMERSET TA19 0DS**

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Headteacher: Miss C. Oaten



Newsletter No: 2 Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## **Our school community**

Our new Reception are settling in and are already actively involved in school life. It was a pleasure to hear one of the Reception teachers telling me how kind she had noticed the older children were to the new starters at lunchtime and this is a credit to the children.

Thank you for keeping with us as we all get used to the new system for drop off and collection. Just to remind families, now Reception children are more familiar with the school we are happy for them to come in any gate however the front gate and double gates (Wharf Lane) will let them enter the school nearer to where their teachers are waiting on the playground. We know some families would prefer the staggered starts and separate gates for classes but equally we know some prefer the current system, realistically with over 250 families we are unlikely to ever find a system that suits everyone and we are seeing this new system become more efficient as everyone gets used to the changes. We will monitor both the morning and afternoon sessions to look for any potential changes. One area we would like to remind families about is please can families only bring one adult at drop off/pick up to minimise the numbers around and in school.

A parent has also raised a concern about children on scooters outside of school, specifically on Wharf Lane. Please can we ask families to check that children stay on the pavement rather than the road. A reminder as well that we do have storage for scooters if you wish to leave them at school during the day. As one scooter can look like another we suggest adding a special sticker or mark that your child will recognise. Scooter parking is located by the double and back gates on Wharf Lane.

In regard to Wharf Lane, to be fair to pedestrians and our neighbours, please can we request vehicles do not go down this road past school unless going to a specific property and please do not park on the single yellow lines (unless with a disabled parking permit) or on the school hatchings. This helps reduce the number of cars at pick up/drop off and makes it safer for the children.

Finally, a thank you to all our families when we had our fire alarm go off at 3.30pm yesterday. Not a time we would ever choose and thank you for helping us get everyone away from the buildings whilst we established what had happened.



### **Swimming**

As we are swimming again please can we ask that if possible your child wears a one piece swimming costume/swim shorts rather than board shorts or two pieces. This is to try and make swimming as safe as possible for children learning so that they have full movement and minimise water drag etc.

### **Uniform**

The children are all looking very smart at the start of term but we are noticing that a lot of uniform is not named and one jumper/cardigan looks very much like another. Please can you check all clothing is named and that does include underwear when swimming.

### **Water**

All children must have a refillable water bottle in school and this should contain still water (not juice) as it is there to hydrate the children through the day rather than as a food. Children are still welcome to have juice with their lunchboxes. These must be named and ideally ones that the children as they get older can refill themselves.

### **Morrisons**

If you shop at Morrisons please would you consider nominating Greenfylde as your recipient of the current Good to Grow tokens. Between 5<sup>th</sup> September and 24<sup>th</sup> October, all you need to do is download the MyMorrisons app, head to the It's Good to Grow section and select Greenfylde to donate your Grow Tokens to. School will be able to redeem these for a wide range of gardening equipment that will help with our Gardening classroom and Forest School area.

### **School office**

To assist the office in dealing with your enquiries, please include your child's full name and class in any correspondence. Many thanks.

### **Headlice**

A reminder that headlice are not scared away by Covid so please keep checking your children's hair at least weekly so any lice or eggs can be treated quickly.

### **Breakfast and After School Clubs**

Don't forget we are still offering wrap around care in our breakfast and after school clubs from 7.45am to 5.30pm. If you would like further details including the cost of sessions please email or contact the school office.

This is now booking via the School Comms app. If the sessions you want are full please let the office know as we are looking to expand some sessions and we need to know where there could be demand.

### **Covid**

A reminder that any information e.g if your child is waiting for a test or when they have received a result should be sent by email to the school office at [greenfylde@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:greenfylde@educ.somerset.gov.uk). Your child must not come in if they have any Covid symptoms (high temperature, loss of taste/smell, new continuous cough).

## Star of the Week

Congratulations to our stars for this week.

Dove	Reggie S & Emmie-Ann P
Pippin	Kevan P & Caspian G
Sandew	Mabel C & Otis G



Golden	Oliver I & Beth C
Puffin	Maddison B-S & Teddy B
Camelot	Jacob L & Matilda D
Hook	Evie-Rose T & Przemyslaw D
Dunkerton	Jack H & Ivy-Rose J

Morgan	Amelia B & Jessica C
Ashton	Lee M & Annie T
Coker	Damian H & Nancy P
Coopers	Jack L & Daisy G
Gatcombe	Jack T & Alice H

Stars and certificates will be presented on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 9.30am for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am for Years 3 and 4. Following a lot of requests we are keeping these awards virtual so that family from across the country/world can join.

Families of the recipients are welcome to attend via Zoom and a link will be sent out to the contact emails we have for our stars. We encourage all family members to stay until the end of the celebration if possible.

Please note if joining via Zoom no recordings or screen shots should be taken of the sessions for safeguarding and we ask you to remain on mute. Please also be aware of your screen name and we ask that this is changed to your child's name.

## Have a look at a book!

Each week we're going to suggest a book you may want to look out for at the Library etc. This week's book is 'The Leaf Thief'.





## Sunny-Ile Pre-School Cygnet Pre-School



Newsletter - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Sunny Ile and Cygnet Pre School

Welcome back to all our children and families. We are excited to see old faces as they start their next year with us. Also a big hello to all our new children and families. We look forward to sharing new adventures through your journey at our Pre-schools.

#### Spaces

We currently have spaces at both our preschool settings. If you are interested in a space please email [Hlancaster@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:Hlancaster@educ.somerset.gov.uk) for further details or visit our website to see our prospectus.

#### Facebook

Our pre-school's have their own Facebook pages where we share upcoming events, activities and news. Please like and share our pages to have up to date information, news and upcoming events. <https://www.facebook.com/SunnyIlePreschool> and <https://www.facebook.com/Cygnet-Pre-School-126310894087380>

#### Safeguarding

Please can all parents ensure that you give us up to date contact details including email addresses, telephone including mobiles and addresses. Please speak to a member of staff or email Helen with this important information as soon as possible.

#### Lost Property

We would like to remind you to name ALL belongings. As you can imagine it can be confusing with coats and bags that look the same. This includes lunch boxes and drink bottles please.

#### Child protection

Everyone at our preschool takes their roles of looking after your child very seriously. We will follow procedures laid down by the Somerset Safeguarding children's board.

Sunny Ile designated child protection officer is Cheryl Herrick, in her absence is Di Dawe.  
Cygnet's designated child protection officer is Natalie Tucker, in her absence is Naomi Wills.

#### Dates for the Diary

**October Half term** - Pre School closes after school on Friday 22nd October 2021. We reopen on Wednesday 3rd November 2021.  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November is holiday and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November is an INSET day for both preschools.

### Sunny Ile Pre School

#### New routine.

We want to thank all our families for following our new routines and procedures during this time. The children have settled in really quickly this week, it has been lovely to have parents being able to collect the children on site!



## Sunny-Ile Pre-School Cygnet Pre-School



Newsletter - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Tapestry

Thank you to our new parents for uploading information on your child's 'All about me' page. Hopefully you have been able to have a look at your child's 'First day of Preschool' post, where you can see some of the activities your child has been doing. We welcome posts from yourselves with activities that your child has been doing at home or any 'Wow' moments.

If you haven't been able to set up your Tapestry account please email us so we can send a reactivation link.

### Car Park permits.

We have car park permits, which can be used at the beginning and end of the day and at lunchtimes. Please see a member of staff to arrange a permit.

### Absences

If your child is not going to be in, please ring on 01460 259732 to speak to a member of the team. We prefer this method of communication as we can speak to you immediately.

### Cygnet Pre School

**We have had a brilliant first full week settling back into the preschool routines. We are so proud of the new little ones who have started with us and the way they have settled in so well, and also our returning little ones who have all returned with smiling faces, ready and eager to learn.**

### Drop off and collection

Thank you to everyone for your cooperation with drop off and collection times, this is working really well. Please can we ask however that when leaving the school gates at 9am, they can be shut to ensure the school safety.

### Tapestry

Don't forget to take a look at your tapestry accounts to see all the exciting things we have been doing at preschool this week and please feel free to share anything with us that you have been getting up to at home.

### Spare clothes

Can we ask that all items of clothing are named and children are sent with a spare set of clothes for each session.

### Congratulations

We would like to share with you the news that Natalie has now been awarded her Early Years Foundation Degree and will be continuing her studies this year with her BA Honours degree.

### Letter of the week

Our letter of the week for next week will be 'M'. We would love you to share anything you find with your child, around your home or on your travels beginning with the letter of the week on tapestry.



# Umbrella decorating competition 2021



Even though there will not be a walking carnival this year, Ilminster Carnival Committee have very kindly arranged another competition for children at Greenfylde to decorate an umbrella in any way they choose.

Completed umbrellas would be judged in school on **Friday 1st October** and should be brought into class on the Friday morning ready to parade for the Carnival judges later in the day.

We know you all have fabulous imaginations and we have seen some amazing designs over the years. We hope lots of you will take part and please speak to any of the teachers for further details.



## Tuning in to Kids Parenting Group

A **free** 5-week course for parents and carers of children aged 4-11.

Would you like to learn how to:

- be better at talking with your child?
- be better at understanding your child?
- help your child learn to manage their emotions?
- help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
- teach your child to deal with conflict?

**Dates: Thursdays: 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> November.  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Time: 9.30a.m. - 12noon**

**Venue: St Batholemews School, Crewkerne.**

For more information on this course and to book your place, please contact Parent & Family Support Advisers.

Jemma Henwood - 07825054694

Rebecca Larcombe - 07825054695

