



September 2022 Newsletter

WELCOME!

Welcome, or welcome back, to all our children and their families. I hope that you have had a lovely summer. It has been a different for us as we successfully trialled opening outside of termtime - we are now looking forward to everyone being back. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new manager. My name is Vicky Howe. I live near Stokesley and I am a qualified teacher. I have worked in nurseries for many years, and for the last few years as an Early Years teacher at Carlton and Faceby School, where I had a mixed class of nursery and reception children. However, my heart is very much in nursery and I decided that I wanted to move back from school into a purely nursery setting. I have a very similar child-led, in-the-moment learning ethos to how Esklets already operates. It has been really useful to be in over the summer for a handover period with Katie, so hopefully you won't notice any difference in your child's experience at Esklets. I would like to thank Katie, and wish her the very best of luck in her new venture.

New Opening Hours -

We are aiming to offer year-round childcare at Esklets, opening 50 weeks / year from 8.30 - 4.00. We need this to be financially viable so are initially trialling it for this school year. Please complete the attached form as fully as you are able. Please be honest about your needs and requirements - we won't be offended!

Contact details -

Please can you let us know if any of your details have changed. It is important that we have up-to-date contact details in case of emergencies.

Photos -

We are going to update our photos from home display. Please email, message or send in any photos of your children with their families, pets or doing favourite activities.

Changing your child's hours/days - Please let us know as soon as possible if you want to change your child's days or hours. We work out fees at the beginning of the month, so need to know when your child will be attending. This also applies to funded children.

- **Thankyou! –**

Thank you to Mike Thompson who has spent much of his free time this summer replacing lots of our very rotten fencing, with new fencing kindly donated by Sirius. He has worked hard and done a great job, but has not managed to finish it all in the time he had. Would anyone be able to volunteer to do some or all of the rest, or know anyone that might be willing to do it? If so please speak to one of us for more details. I believe there may be some money available for payment. We heavily rely on donations to keep going – not just money donations but people helping us to keep the setting maintained. If you ever can give any time to help out, please let us know!

- **Fees –** Fees are not increasing from last term. Please take the time to read our new fees policy which is attached

- **What to send with your child –**

Please could all children bring a bag with a spare pair of clothes in. We do have clothes that children can get changed into, but sometimes these don't come back to the setting (socks especially!) Other things that we would suggest putting in their bag are: a sun hat, their own sun cream if you use a specific brand (we do have sun cream in the setting), a pair of shoes if you send your child in wellies.

- **Packed Lunches –**

A polite reminder that Esklets promotes healthy eating, so please do not send your child with chocolate, sweets or crisps. We offer children milk and water all through the day, so you do not need to send them a drink, and all children are offered a midmorning fruit snack. If you need any advice on healthy eating, you can either speak to Vicky or Rachel or look at our website.

- **Car park –** Could we remind everyone arriving at Esklets in a vehicle to adhere to the 5mph speed limit past Station House and into our car park. We have children arriving and leaving at different times of the day, so their safety is paramount. We also have some ducklings in the tall grass, so be aware.

- **Important dates –**

Please find attached a list of term dates for this school year. If you have any questions about our opening days/hours, please speak to Vicky or Rachel.

Diary Date:

Thursday 13th October – Sponsored railway walk. More details to follow, but parent helpers will be required so please save the date!

New Opening Hours – trial period

Open 8.30 – 4.00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, except for Bank Holidays and from 19th December to 2nd January.

Please see the attached calendar – school term time dates are highlighted **green**, extra weeks open during school holidays are highlighted **blue**, weeks closed are highlighted **grey**. Wednesdays are **purple** as we are currently closed on this day.

Please read the following statements carefully and tick the one that **currently** applies to you and your child.

Name of child		
My child has 3-4 year old funding and we wish to access a term-time only nursery place using our agreed hours and sessions (38 weeks of funding)		
My child has 3-4 year old funding for term-time. We also wish to access their agreed sessions during school holidays (an additional 12 weeks), which we understand will be charged at £5.50/hr		
My child has 3-4 year old funding for term-time. We also wish to access some sessions (less than their agreed sessions) during school holidays, which we understand will be charged at £5.50/hr		
My child does not yet receive government funding. We wish to pay for their agreed sessions during term-time only, which we understand will be charged at £5.50/hr		
My child does not yet receive government funding. We wish to pay for their agreed sessions all year round (50 weeks, with up to 16 days authorised absence), which we understand will be charged at £5.00/hr		
If Esklets were open on Wednesdays I would access sessions on this day for my child in addition to their already agreed sessions		
Comments (continue over if needed)		

Please return forms as soon as possible. Once forms are returned and we can assess the financial viability of offering year round child-care, we will confirm our school holiday opening.

Many thanks for your support.