



## September 2023 Newsletter

### **WELCOME!**

Welcome, or welcome back, to all our children and their families. I hope that you have had a lovely summer, despite the damp weather. A few of you used our summer holiday club, which was lots of fun – we look forward now to having everyone back into normal routine.

This newsletter has lots of reminders for you, for the year ahead!

### **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.

### **Opening Hours –**

We are open Monday – Friday in school termtime, from 8.30 – 4.00. Please see the calendar of term dates on our website. We are entitled to a set number of 'Professional Development' days through the year, when we are closed to children. These are taken as the first Monday of each term (4<sup>th</sup> September, 8<sup>th</sup> January, 15<sup>th</sup> April), the last Friday of the Autumn term (22<sup>nd</sup> December) and the last Monday of the summer term (22<sup>nd</sup> July).

**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. Funded hours can only be changed at the start of each term.

### **Dropoff and Collection**

Please try to ensure timely drop off and collection of your child. We are unable to have children in the setting before 8.30 as we are busy getting the nursery ready for the children. Similarly at the end of the day, once children have gone, we still have to tidy up and clean before we can leave, so much as we like the children, please collect them by 4!!! Obviously if there is ever an emergency we would wait with children for as long as needed, but for children who are persistently collected late we would have to charge a fee as stated in our policy. This also applies for children with shorter hours within our opening times as staffing levels are set according to the

number of children we expect to be with us (ie if you have your child booked in from 9.00, please don't arrive at 8.45!)

When coming into nursery, unless it is a special event (like introducing a new adult who can pick up your child) please can only ONE ADULT come in with a child. If you need to bring older siblings with you, please keep them by you near the door. It makes it much harder for us to ensure all children are safe and happy when we are crowded with extra people.

Please keep your child with you on collection and leave the building together – don't let them run outside and play on the equipment.

### **Toys from home –**

Toys from home can cause all sorts of problems – they can get lost, broken, forgotten....If possible don't bring any toys from home to Esklets.

### **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.

### **What to send with your child –**

Please could all children bring a small bag with a spare set 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. We go outside every day, so please send your child in weather appropriate clothing that you don't mind getting very dirty. Please send nappies, wipes etc if your child needs them.

### **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 through the day, so you do not need to send them a drink, and all children are offered a midmorning fruit snack and a healthy afternoon snack. If you need any advice on healthy eating, you can either speak to Vicky or Rachel or look at our website.

### **Policies**

Please take the time to read our policies on the website [www.eskletspreschool.co.uk](http://www.eskletspreschool.co.uk) – they cover all areas of nursery, from what to do in an emergency and what to do if your child is ill, to the way we change nappies, prepare food and educate your children.

**Fees –** Fees are not increasing from last term.

## **Tax-Free Childcare and Government funding**

Do you know about the Government's Tax-Free Childcare Scheme? It is a scheme to help families with childcare costs. Visit [www.childcarechoices.co.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.co.uk) to find out if you are eligible. For every £8 you pay towards your childcare costs, the government will top it up to £10. You can claim this from when your child is born up to when they are 11. This website is also where you can find out about extended hours funding for 3&4 year olds, and the funding offer for some 2 year olds. If you claim 30 hours please don't forget to update your code when prompted, otherwise it can expire. The new government funding for younger children starts to be rolled out next April.

## **Staff –**

Due to an increase in our numbers we are pleased that we have been able to ask Katy to continue working at Esklets this school year.

**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 – some of whom walk – so their safety is paramount. The potholes have been filled – please don't use this as an excuse to speed up! The work took all of our fundraising from the jumble sale, so let's look after it!!

## **Thank you –**

To John Muir for designing our fantastic new banner, to the Eskdales pub for their generous donation from their Sunday Quiz fund, and to all committee members who helped with / donated to our stall at Danby Show.

## **Important dates –**

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Dalesmen Singers         | 14 <sup>th</sup> October (see attached information)  |
| Half term                | 29 <sup>th</sup> October – 3 <sup>rd</sup> November  |
| Castleton Coffee Morning | 18 <sup>th</sup> November (details to follow – save the date)  |
| Christmas Party          | 21 <sup>st</sup> December  |
| Christmas Holiday        | 22 <sup>nd</sup> December – 8 <sup>th</sup> January (note WE ARE CLOSED on Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> AND Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January) |

Sorry for the lengthy and information-filled newsletter.

Thank you as always for your support.

**THE**  
**Dalesmen Singers**  
 MALE VOICE CHOIR  
*present a*  
**GALA CONCERT**  
*With Special Guest Star*  
**Acclaimed Accordionist & Spectacular Entertainer**  
 ★★★★★ **Thom Hardaker** ★★★★★

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023 • 7.00pm**  
**at Danby Methodist Church**  
 Followed by refreshments at Danby Village Hall (included in ticket price)



**Esklets**  
PreSchool



**Grand  
Gala  
Raffle**



**Whitby & District Sheds**  
UK  
Men's  
Sheds  
Association  
Creative Distraction & Wellbeing  
Coast, Moors & Esk Valley

*Raising funds for two great local organisations who share  
 our love of music and it's benefit to our communities.*

**Tickets only £12, available from choir members**  
 or book online at:  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/dalesmen-singers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/dalesmen-singers)

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**THE FOX & HOUNDS**  
AINTHORPE





[www.dalesmensingers.net](http://www.dalesmensingers.net)

Registered Charity No: 1029695




As you can see from the attached poster, The Dalesmen Singers have very kindly chosen to donate a share of the funds raised from their Gala Concert to Esklets. These funds will be used to buy much needed new music equipment and pay for our music subscription.

Please support them (and us!) by attending the concert in Danby Methodist Church and Village Hall. They are allowing Esklets families first access to tickets, which sell out fast, so get yours right away! Advance booking via email to [sing@dalesmensingers.net](mailto:sing@dalesmensingers.net), public bookings start online 13th September.

Please could you also donate prizes for the raffle? Bring any prizes into Esklets well before the concert date.