

Welcome to Tudhoe Moor Nursery School

Hello everyone and welcome to our school!

For our returning families, it's great to have you back with us again. For all of our new families, hello and welcome. We hope that you and your children will love coming to Tudhoe Moor Nursery School and we look forward to them learning lots of new things.

We use these newsletters to keep you up to date with all the exciting things that we've been doing and as a reminder of dates and forthcoming events so that you know what's happening. The newsletter will be e-mailed to all families, uploaded onto our school website and there will be hard copies available in the entrance porch. If you want to know anything but don't have your newsletter you can always ask at school, look on our website or our Facebook page.

I will be going on maternity leave in the next couple of weeks and will not be returning until after Easter. Amanda Bond will be Acting Head during this time and Mrs Phillips will be Acting Deputy Head Teacher. Miss Bond will be the Safeguarding lead as well as SENCO.

Thank you

Julia Hymers- Head Teacher

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 7th September	First day back for children
Monday 12th September	Building work starting
Monday 26th September	Forest school starting
Friday 21st October	Last day of term
Monday 31st October	Return to nursery

Snack money

We politely ask for a voluntary contribution of £2 per week for 30 hour children and £1 per week for 15 hour children. This money is used to provide a snack for the children in the morning and the afternoon. We also use it to buy additional resources, e.g. items for baking or special activities in nursery; without these contributions we would not be able to do this. You can put your donation in the money box by the front door.



Drop off and pick up

We are trying to get the right balance between maintaining some social distancing alongside returning to some sense of normality. The school day will still be starting with staggered timings. We ask that parents please line up on the main path and say goodbye to the children at the porch door.

At home time, we will be opening the gate to the right hand side of our building at 2.50pm and close this at 3.10pm. Parents can come through this gate and then access the nursery through our back door. You will be able to make your way to your child's group and pick them up from there. You will then exit the building through the porch where you can collect your child's belongings. We hope that this one way system will avoid large gatherings and also give you the chance to speak to your child's key worker.

If you need to pick up an older sibling from school and want to pick up your child earlier, you can come to the main school door **before 2.40pm**. This will allow us to ensure we can get the rest of the children back into group for a final story and head count before main pickup!

If your child attends for mornings, you can line up on the main school path. At 11.45am, the door to the porch will open where you can come in. This will also give you the chance to speak to your child's key worker and collect their belongings.



Bicycle shelter

In order to support those families that want to encourage their children to walk to school we have a shelter to store bikes, pushchairs and scooters while their children are at nursery. There is a coded padlock on the shelter, just see Julia/Amanda for the code.

Sad news!

We are very sorry to say that Tracy has sadly left her job as Administration Manager with us after 19 years of service! Tracy has been offered an amazing new job working for Durham County Council in the finance team and we wish her all the best. We are going to miss her so much but know she will be amazing in her new role.

We have advertised the job to find her replacement but will be without someone for at least one month, possibly longer. Please bear with us while we try to do all things finance! For any queries, please speak to Julia or Amanda and we will do our best to help.

Congratulations!

Miss Dunn got married over the summer and will now be known as Mrs Phillips. She had a wonderful day and looked absolutely stunning!

Congratulations Mr and Mrs Phillips!

Star of the Week



Every Friday, we will celebrate one child's achievements from each group. The child will stand up in their group, receive a special certificate and sticker and also go on our wall of fame in the porch! Staff look out for children that have settled well, join in with group time, help tidy up, made a new friend or been a good listener among lots of other reasons.



What are we learning this half-term?

Our main topic this half term is Nursery Rhymes. We are learning rhymes such as Humpty Dumpty, Hickory dickory dock, Hey diddle diddle and Baa baa black sheep.

The children will have the opportunity to take part in lots of different activities to help to develop mark-making and early writing skills; counting and making sets and becoming familiar with the routines and expectations of nursery school. Children will also begin to make new friends and play imaginatively with them.



Names in children's clothes

Please remember to put your child's name in all of their belongings; jumpers, coats, scarves, and shoes. We have several children with the same shoes and jumpers and they can easily be muddled up! Please make sure that you put your child's name in everything to help us dress your children in the right things.



Also if your child comes home in nursery clothes after having an accident here at nursery school please make sure that you return them as soon as possible as we need them regularly.



Parents comments

If you have any questions or comments about anything in the newsletter or nursery in general; or you would like further information about anything to do with nursery, please see a member of staff or contact us on: 01388 816112 or e-mail: tudhoemoor.nursery@durhamlearning.net

If you would like to have a more in-depth discussion about anything, you can make an appointment to speak to with your child's key worker or Mrs Julia Hymers (Head Teacher).

School places

Most of our children will be leaving us in July 2023 to join Reception at a local Primary school. Applications can be completed online- the portal for this is now open and will close in January 2023. You are required to select up to three schools of your choice and need to pick the order that you would like.

We usually recommend going to visit a few schools before making your decision, however, given the current situation all school will be dealing with admissions differently. You can phone the school directly to find our more. The phone numbers for our main link schools are below:

North Park Primary School	01388 815 943
St Charles RC Primary School	01388 814 285
Tudhoe Colliery Primary	01388 814 399
Rosa St Primary School	01388 815 427
Oxclose Primary School	01388 814 860
King Street Primary School	01388 816 078
Kirk Merrington Primary School	01388 816 230

Facebook Page

A little reminder that we have a Facebook page; hopefully more families will be able to keep up to date with events and diary dates. There will also be some posts about things that we have been doing that might be of interest... keep watching and like our page. You should have received a letter asking for your consent. Please sign and return this so that we can start posting!



Building work



We are getting some building work done externally to create a new mud kitchen as well as planting area for the children. This should take approximately two weeks to complete and will start on Monday 12th September. The children will still have access to outside and we hope there should not be too much disruption.

We are due some internal building work due to start in October for approximately 3 weeks. This will create a larger kitchen within the nursery for children to cook in, as well as separating one large classroom (Purple room) into two smaller ones for a staffroom/meeting room, and a classroom. We will let you know if this will have any impact on the children at all but have been told there should be minimal disruption.

Forest School

Mrs Phillips will be running forest school sessions with every child starting on Monday 26th September. Children will be outside for half a day per week learning about the environment, using tools, planting seeds and lots more!

Each group will have the same session each week. We would like to ask that your child wears warm clothes on this day. We will provide waterproof protective outerwear for your child which should protect their clothes.

For any questions about what the sessions entail, please speak to Mrs Phillips. Once the sessions start, there will be a floorbook displayed in the porch to see what children have been doing.

Blue	Tuesday AM
Yellow	Tuesday PM
Purple	Thursday AM
Red	Thursday PM

Wraparound Clubs

We are now doing our own Breakfast and After School Clubs using school staff. Breakfast Club is from 7.45am till 9.00am and costs £4.00 per day. After School Club is from 3.00pm to 5.30pm and costs £10.00 per day.

If you would like to sign up for any of these clubs, please speak to a staff member.