

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome all new families, and welcome back familiar faces; we are looking forward to a brand new school year together! We hope you all had a wonderful summer, and are ready and raring to go. During the first few weeks in school, we prioritise time to get to know one another and our learning environments. To ensure you feel familiar with our staffing, please see below for an introduction to our team:



Catherine Lawrence (EYFS Lead and Class Teacher
Monday-Wednesday)



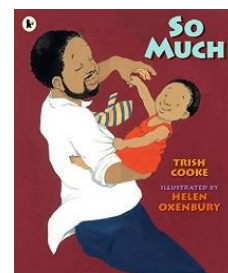
Faye Linden-McCarron (Class Teacher Thursday-Friday)



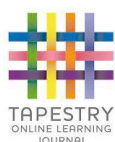
Toni Lammin (Higher Learning Teaching Assistant
Monday-Friday)

We are also lucky to have Terrie Davies, Michelle Lane and Shelley Payne join our teaching team this year.

We are kick starting the school year with a theme of 'All About Me'. This topic will give us the chance to find out about our new friends and to explore our own interests and experiences. Our focus text for this topic will be 'So Much' by Trish Cooke, though we will enjoy many other stories through learning and play. We have also created a baby clinic in the outside area following the children's interests and experiences, and we will continually enhance and adapt our environment based on the children's interests. For instance, we know that there are some budding scientists (including palaeontologists!) amongst us and have therefore ensured that there is plenty of opportunity to make discoveries with our new outdoor areas! Our revised areas for this year include a Jurassic Park small world (complete with fairy doors for added intrigue!), large scale painting areas and a water 'splash zone' for those all important gross motor skills. Following the half term we will be focusing on the theme of 'Food, Glorious Food!' with our key text being 'I will not ever, never, eat a tomato' by Lauren Child.



We ask for a £5 voluntary cash contribution each term just to help us with the small incidental things like ingredients for playdough/cooking, sensory items, repairs, and we really do appreciate your help with this.



Please remember to start looking at/using Tapestry now. Many thanks to those of you who have already posted some of your child's learning on there; it is so important that your voices are heard as well as ours! Do let us know if you are having any difficulties with the programme.

Children need a pair of wellies and a bag of spare clothes in school at all times. We cannot stress enough how important it is for everything to be named. **Please ensure all items of clothing** (including school shoes and wellies, coats and caps) **are named clearly**. We are a nut-free school so please remember this if you are giving your child a packed lunch. The children also need **named water bottles** in school. Do remember to check the school website regularly so that you see all the wonderful learning that is going on. Here, you will also find copies of any letters we send home and an outline of our curriculum.

We are really looking forward to working closely with you and your children during the coming year!

The Early Years Team