

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Brown

Governors section

- One of our governors, Peter Swann, has applied to the Tesco Community Grants Scheme on our behalf and has been successful. Our project (sports and dance coaching) will be put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores. If you shop in store you will receive a token to vote for one of three projects, one of which is ours. It will run from the beginning of July 2023 until the end of September 2023 in the Tesco express store in Buxton and the big Tesco in Whaley Bridge **Feel free to share this list of stores amongst your friends and family and do support us if you can.**
- The Governors would like to thank the Friends of Flagg for all their support with fundraising this year: In total with the Christmas Chocolate Bingo, Valentine café, Easter bunny drive and Strawberry Fayre, we raised £3,252 which will be used to pay for school trips, gifts for children at Christmas and when they leave, living eggs and animal workshops amongst other things. We also had a lot of fun at these events, it was great to see so many families past, present and future at the Strawberry Fayre, it was a real community event
- Our teaching and learning committee are pleased to announce that children's progress has been consistently high this year and would like to thank staff for maintaining these high standards.
- Over the past few years our budget has been subject to significant cutbacks from the department for education. I would like to thank our finance governors, Ian Daniel (chair of governors) and Peter Swann (chair of our resource management committee) for their support this year during a very challenging time for our budget. Due to their support we are able to maintain current staffing levels for another few years and therefore maintain the high quality of education that we can provide. We have, however, decided not to continue to buy into the school dinner service from September. This service costs us £6,500 a year (this is in addition to the money paid by parents for individual meals). We have decided that this money would be better spent on staffing. We are looking into providing vouchers for families entitled to free school meals, this will come out of our school budget as the cost of free school meals for nursery children are not covered by the government. **From September all children staying for the full day will need a packed lunch.**
- Governors have decided to put up our charges from September in line with inflation. Please see the attached price list for information about this.

Big Toddle

A big thank you to everyone who attended and donated to the Big Toddle. We raised £180 for Barnados and had a great time doing it. Our children were extremely resilient, cheerful and well behaved and made us proud.

Crich Tramway Museum

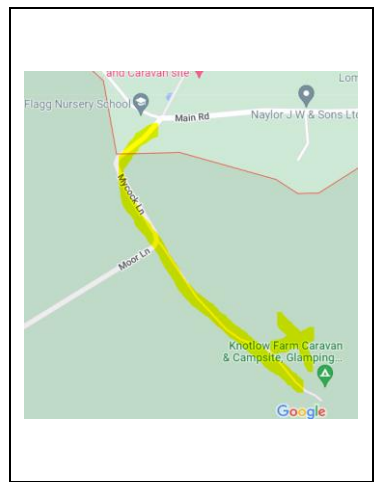
We also had a very successful trip to Crich Tramway museum with lots of parents, grandparents and even great-grandparents joining us. A lovely day was had by all, riding on the trams, strolling along the woodland sculpture trail and exploring the outdoor games and the labyrinth at lunchtime. Once again, I was really proud of our children who behaved very well and were curious and interested. They took everything in their stride!



Sports Day and Family Picnic

Sports Day this year will be held on Tuesday 4th July at Knotlow Farm. For children who are already in nursery we will walk to Knotlow Farm at 12.15pm, **you are welcome to walk with us. For families with children not in nursery on Tuesdays, please meet us at Knotlow farm at 12:30pm with a picnic (see map on the right, there will be parking available).** Parents, grandparents and siblings are very welcome to attend.

Nursery will not be open for the afternoon and school dinners will not be available so please remember to send your child with a packed lunch and drink. We will be eating our picnics until about 1.15pm and will then have races, games and sports toys to play with. If the weather forecast is very bad I will let you know that it is cancelled asap and we have a backup date of Tuesday 11th July.



Staffing and students

Some of you may already have heard that Mrs Taylor is poorly and in hospital. We send her all our love and best wishes for a speedy recovery.

In the meantime, we are covering her role with existing staff where we can. If we can't cover her then we have an arrangement with Monyash primary school and Miss Ashin, who has just completed her apprenticeship in teaching and learning, is covering some of Mrs Taylor's days.

This year we have had two students working with us: Miss Hatcher who is just about to finish her first year of the level 3 CACHE diploma in early education studies and Miss Clarke who has worked with us this year on a voluntary basis. Miss Clarke did her first-year placement for the level 3 diploma in teaching and learning with us during the previous year and kindly stayed on a voluntary basis on her days during this her second year. Miss Clarke has secured a job as a nanny in Vancouver and we wish her well on her travels.

I would like to thank both Miss Hatcher and Miss Clarke for their dedication and enthusiasm. The staff and children have loved having them both in nursery.



Leavers Assembly

On Wednesday 19th July we are having a leaver's assembly. **All children going to school in September are invited. If Wednesday is not your normal day: please arrive at 1.45pm.** There will be a short singalong and gift giving at 2.00pm to which all **parents of leavers** are invited.

Goodbye and Good Luck to all of our leavers. We wish you all the best in your new primary schools and look forward to seeing you at our 'Reception Tea Party' in October. Look out for an invitation in the post!

Class Dojo

In September we will be moving to a single messaging platform to communicate with you. We have chosen Class Dojo as this is the one most regularly used by parents. We will no longer use either Evidence Me or Parent Hub. We will be using the messaging function on Class Dojo to send you photos and videos of your child as well as the class story to post photos of whole class activities and send general messages. We will also use class dojo to record staff reading stories, singing songs and giving you ideas about activities you can do at home to support learning and give you tips on how to support your child's language development.

Parentview

As we are approaching the end of the academic year I would be very grateful to hear your thoughts and opinions about our nursery school. I am sending out questionnaires to everyone via Microsoft forms and I would be grateful if you could fill them in. We are always striving to improve and we do act upon parents' suggestions: some ideas we have implemented to date include sports day and fundraising ideas such as the Christmas chocolate bingo. There is also a link to Ofsted's Parentview on our facebook page. You can follow it here :

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

It only takes five minutes and is extremely helpful to us. Thank you.

ParentPay

Please ensure that all balances and payment items are paid in full by 31st July 2023. This is particularly important for the families of children who are leaving as your accounts will no longer be active in September. If you are unable to do this for any reason, please let us know. Thank you.

September Sessions

Those of you who will still be with us in September will receive an offer letter within the next few days. Please make sure that you have confirmed your place and if necessary, returned your FE1 form by the end of term.

Just to clarify the funding arrangements: from the term after your child turns three everyone is entitled to 15 hours of free nursery funding. This equates to five mornings (9am until 12pm) or two and a half days (a full day will be from 9am until 3pm) or any other variation of sessions. Many parents are also eligible for a further 15 hours funding (the 30 hour offer), eligibility depends on if you are working, your income (and your partner's if you have one) and if you are in receipt of certain benefits. To meet the criteria you are expected to work for at least national minimum wage for 16 hours per week over a 3 month period but not earn more than £100,000 in the current tax year (including bonuses).

If you would like your child to attend for more than 15 hours, it is worth applying for the extra funding, even if it is only 3 hours per week thus making the time up to three full days. To apply you need to go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Once you have successfully applied you will be given a code which you need to include on your FE1 form along with your national insurance number. The funding needs to be in place the term before it is to be used so if you need the funding in September 2023 you need to apply before 31st August 2023 and preferably before we break up for the summer holidays. If you need the funding in January 2024 then you need to apply for it before 31st December 2023. If you need any help with your 30 hour application or FE1 form, just pop in to the school office.

If you are paying for any sessions and/ or breakfast club, you may also want to apply for a Tax-Free childcare account for your child. For every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay in £2 to use to pay nursery fees. The general eligibility criteria is that you are expecting to work for at least national minimum wage for 16 hours per week over a 3 month period but not earning more than £100,000 in the current tax year. It's worth checking to see whether you are eligible: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 4th July 12.30pm	Sports day and family picnic
Tuesday 11th July 12.30pm	Back up sports day
Wednesday 19th July 2pm	Leaver's assembly
Thursday 20th July	Break up for the summer holiday
Friday 21st July	INSET day, school closed for children
Monday 4th September and Tuesday 5th September	INSET days, school closed for children
Wednesday 6th September	Back to school
Monday 11th September	New children start

Sarah Brown July 2023