

**NEWSLETTER** Spring Term Part 2

We would like to welcome our new friends Austen and Jessica to Sunshine, it is lovely to have you playing and we hope you enjoy your time with us.

**School transition**

So by now you should of all found out what school your children will be going to, please don't forget to let us know so we can begin talking to these schools and get the transition process started. Also let us know if there is anything we can do to assist at all, we will be happy to help or signpost you to the right people for the job. We will be holding parents evening this term so keep an eye out for more information. This will be a perfect opportunity to talk through your child's development and how they spend their time at Sunshine. This parents evening will be open to all children.

**Topic**

Last term we finished off looking at the Hungry Caterpillar book and talking all about life cycles. The children are very excited to have their very own caterpillars at Sunshine, we are watched them grow bigger and bigger and they cocooned just before the Easter holidays and since then have hatched into beautiful butterflies, keep an eye out on our Facebook page and we will video the children releasing them when there strong enough.

**Book bags**

Our dedicated staff spend a lot of time creating these lovely memories for you and your families and we're finding that some are not even being looked at or there is a collection of artwork stretching back to last year. So with this in mind we are going to be changing the way we do these books. We will be spending the whole half a term updating pictures and adding all the fun activities your children have partaken in and using the Facebook page for weekly updates. So bring your child's book bag in at the beginning of term and you don't have to worry about bringing it in every week, the last week of term you will get your book bag back with lots of exciting things to see and of course all your child's artwork too. And don't forget we would still love to hear about what you have been up to in the holidays. Please work with us and spend some time looking through your book with your child as we would hate to have to give these up. If you enjoyed the books and would like to continue the way we were then please speak to your child's keyworker so this can be arranged.

**Home cooked hot meals**

We are sure you will agree the hot meals have been a huge success at Sunshine and the children seem to be really enjoying them.

We used this half term as a trial to see if it would work and we are really impressed with the uptake, so we thank you for this. Due to the success of this we will be continuing to offer this fixed for you at a set price of £1.50 a day, which we will keep at this price for you now until your child leaves us. Anybody joining sunshine as of now will be paying £2.00. Again please let me know if you would like your child to have these and we will get numbers again at the beginning of term.

**Photographer**

We are very excited to be having Concept come back out to see us. Again it will be no obligation to buy, although they are very hard to resist. However this time the lady will be staying with us until 4pm to catch the older siblings at school which will be brilliant, we will also be doing a school leavers photo so look out for more information coming soon.

**Birthdays**

We didn't send out last terms newsletter so we missed Julia and Danny turning 4, and Korbyn turning 3, we hope you all had a lovely day celebrating. We also have some more special birthdays coming up. We have Maisie turning 3 and Amelia and Cypress turning 4, and also Gabs is celebrating her 18<sup>th</sup> in May so were sure there will be lots more fun to be had. We wish everyone a very happy birthday.



## **Government funding increase**

As you are aware in September 2017 the government are doubling the funded sessions available for 3 and 4 year olds for families with working parents. There will be a website up and running soon to be able to check your eligibility so we will keep you informed, please let us know if your eligible so that we can work out who will be accessing it. With this in mind Sunshine's hours will be changing to accommodate for the funding to be used, below is our model to you as parents and we would love to hear any feedback. These hours will be available from April 18<sup>th</sup> to help us get ahead of the game and you will need to let us know in advance to ensure we know numbers for ratios and can order in the food for either additional session. Please let us know at your earliest convenience to ensure we can be prepared.

## **Our new opening times**

**Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.00 – 17.00**

(Monday and Friday to remain the same)

### **Breakfast club - £5**

Arrive anytime between 8-8.30 to have breakfast included. Breakfast will be self-serve buffet style offering the children a choice of cereals and selection of pastries. This is aimed to further enable the children's independence and give them vital life skills all in a safe and enjoyable environment.

**8.45-8.50** – Breakfast is packed away as we start to welcome the rest of the children.

**9.00** – Funded sessions start – Funded hours can only be used between 9.00 – 3.00 term time only.

**3.00**- Funded sessions finish and after school club starts

### **After school club - £10.00**

Two hours additional childcare between the hours of 3pm-5pm including a light tea consisting of sandwiches, jacket potatoes, beans on toast, pizza slices, sausage rolls etc. We would look to encourage the children to help prepare tea for themselves and their friends, again giving the children the independence needed to prepare them for school.

**4.00-4.15** – Light tea served.

**5.00** – Afterschool club finishes