

September 2020

School Brochure – Apple Tree Nursery



HUSTHWAITE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

sowing seeds - bearing fruit - harvesting potential

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Welcome..... a message from the Headteacher.

I am the Executive Head Teacher of Husthwaite Church of England Primary School and Apple Tree Nursery. I split my time between Husthwaite and Sessay Church of England Primary Schools. I enjoy spending time with the children and am privileged to have a role that allows me to work across two small schools with wonderful, hardworking and caring children, staff and communities.

Selecting a school for your child can be a difficult task. There are many aspects to take into consideration, both educational and social, but it is a choice only you can make, because only you can know what best suits your child. By browsing our brochure, we hope that some questions you may have about our school will be answered.

We aim for our children to achieve highly and to be caring, enthusiastic, confident and well-balanced individuals who work together towards common goals. We believe it is vital to fully extend our pupils' capabilities, igniting an enthusiasm and love for learning that will stay with them for life. Each child is welcomed in to our school and is nurtured as an individual to enable them to reach their full potential.

Please contact the school to make an appointment or to ask any questions.

Miss Fiona Bennett
Executive Headteacher



Introduction and Welcome

Welcome to Apple Tree Nursery. We are fortunate in having a nursery attached to the Primary School and children in our nursery unit are taught within our Foundation Stage Class having access to a full and wide-ranging choice of activities and resources. Starting education in a nursery setting such as ours, helps both you and your child prepare for school as they continue their educational journey.

This booklet contains some useful information to give you an overview of nursery routines. Please do not hesitate to come and talk with the staff who will be pleased to try and answer any questions you may have.

Foundation Stage Class Teacher: Mrs Trudi Jackson

Foundation Stage Teaching Assistants: Mrs Emily O’Gorman.

School Business Manager: Mrs Sarah Dixon

(Please see Mrs Dixon for any administrative information or assistance)

Husthwaite and Sessay CE Primary Federation Vision:



‘Sowing Seeds – Bearing Fruit – Harvesting Potential’

‘Growing together in love and learning’



At the Husthwaite and Sessay CE Primary Federation our vision is to provide a happy, caring and stimulating environment where children will recognise and achieve their full potential, so that they can make their best contribution to society.

The Federation is a family where:

- everybody is welcomed and you are not alone
- we pray together
- we are honest, open and respect and care for everyone and everything in our unique and rural community.

As a Federation we have a growth mindset, set high standards of learning and celebrate the achievements of every child within our exciting, broad and balanced curriculum. Our curriculum based upon our Christian values is inclusive and through inquisitive and creative minds our children develop their self-confidence as learners and are encouraged to progress socially, emotionally and spiritually.

The Federation is a place where everyone is different, and everyone is important.

“Teach a child to choose the right path, and when they are older, they will remain upon it.” (Proverbs 22:6)

School Values:

Community

Respect

Caring and
Sharing



Challenge

Enjoyment

Christian Roots

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

Husthwaite Church of England School Foundation Stage will:

- encourage all children to develop lively questioning and curious minds so that they are keen to learn and are receptive to new information
- help children to acquire new linguistic, cognitive, social, physical and practical skills which will provide a firm basis for further learning
- see that children develop a positive attitude towards themselves, their school, fellow pupils and adults they come into contact with
- ensure that the children gain in self-confidence, independence and in the ability to be responsible for themselves
- encourage the children to begin to develop social attitudes of co-operation and understanding which will form the basis of their learning of respect for people
- see that children begin to appreciate, and respect their immediate environment and the wider world
- ensure children enjoy their learning



We believe that the Foundation Stage has intrinsic value and is concerned with the development of the whole child, equipping them with skills that form the basis for their future education.

We know that children come to school with a wide variety of experience and are at different stages of development. We tailor our curriculum and planning to accommodate all individual needs.

We want the environment of Apple Tree Nursery to:

- be attractive and welcoming to children and parents
- be secure and comfortable
- value children's work by displaying it
- allow children to play, work or relax individually or in small groups
- provide areas for quiet, noisy and creative learning activities
- stimulate the children's natural curiosity
- provide areas for privacy and open areas for movement
- enable children to select, use and put away a range of materials and resources
- enable children to make choices in their learning as well as developing the ability to partake in small groups, whole class and teacher initiated tasks

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In the Early Years Foundation Stage we are guided by the philosophy of our school which states that the family and community of our Church School reflect Christian values which are built into the ethos and teaching.

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE ORGANISATION

The curriculum will be delivered in many ways

- indoors, class 1 and The Den
- in the nursery outdoor area
- in the main school
- in the main school grounds

There will be opportunities for Foundation Stage children to join in whole school activities such as Activity Days and Collective Worship.

We use many different teaching styles from individual to small group or class teaching. We also spend a lot of time observing the children's play so we can then plan activities and provision to suit their needs and interests. There will be time during every day for the children to choose from a wide range of activities and explore and learn through their own interests. Children are encouraged to experience outside activities, in all weathers and conditions.

The curriculum is divided into 7 areas of development. There are 3 PRIME areas and 4 specific areas.

PRIME AREAS:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Through this area, we aim to develop children's social, moral, cultural, emotional and spiritual skills. For example:

- interaction with peers and adults,
- independence
- knowledge of Christianity and some aspects of other world religions
- experiencing wonder and awe
- managing their behaviour
- developing self confidence and self-esteem



Communication and Language

This area is concerned with developing speaking, listening, and understanding skills. For example:

- through role play, puppets and story telling discussion and taking turns to speak
- story, song and poetry
- listening activities
- concentration activities



Physical Development

Through this area, children develop their fine and gross motor skills. For example:

- using malleable materials such as play dough and clay
- threading, sewing and constructing
- painting, writing and drawing
- running, jumping and skipping



SPECIFIC AREAS:

Maths

Mathematical development addresses problem solving, working with numbers, shape, space and measure, money and some simple data handling. For example:

- counting rhymes and games
- number games and jigsaws
- role play
- shapes and numbers in the environment
- measuring and comparing
- using sand or water trays



Literacy

Literacy development focuses on the early development of reading and writing skills. For example:

- sharing books, both fiction and non-fiction
- learning correct letter formation
- mark-making
- using the writing area
- writing sentences
- learning tricky words
- using phonics to blend and segment words



Understanding of the World

This area covers science, history, geography, design and information, communication technology. For example:

- examining and appreciating the environment
- remembering past events
- exploring the local area
- using ICT (computers, programmable toys, listening centres, etc.)
- developing questioning skills
- understanding their community and different cultures



Expressive Arts and Design

Creative development is concerned with art, music, dance, designing and constructing. For example:

- using paints in different ways
- "messy play"
- collage and combining different media
- appreciating the work of different types of artists
- singing and listening to music
- using voice, body and musical instruments
- constructing models
- using bodies to express themselves through dance



REMEMBER...PLAY IS A CHILD'S WORK!

We use many different teaching styles from individual to group or class teaching. We also spend a lot of time observing the children's play so we can then plan activities and provision to suit their needs and interests. There will be time during every day for the children to choose from a wide range of activities and explore and learn through their own interests. Children are encouraged to experience outside activities, in all weathers and conditions. We have a dedicated Early Years outdoor learning area.

Through operating as a Foundation Stage the Nursery and Reception have the opportunity to share resources, provision areas and activities, work and play together. This is carefully planned to allow the children to learn from their peers, make choices, develop confidence and ease the transition from Nursery into main school in a secure and stimulating environment.

Routines and administration

Apple Tree Nursery is open at the following times:

0845-1530

Every child is entitled to 15 hours of funded early years childcare from the term after they turn 3 years of age. Some parents may also qualify for 30 hours of funded early years childcare. Dependent on which level of funding your child qualifies for, we offer flexible sessions for full days and half days with options to purchase extended and/or lunch time sessions. Please enquire at the school office for full details and costs.

It is helpful that you inform the office or class teacher of your child's absence and we ask that you contact school by 9.15am at the latest.

As part of our safeguarding routines, the gate into the school grounds and doors are locked. If you arrive at nursery late, please report to the school office who will let you gain access.

Home-School links

We believe strongly in parents as partners in the education of their children and we actively encourage them into school at every opportunity. Parents are provided with an information sheet at the beginning of each half term. This outlines the main curriculum areas to be taught offering opportunities for support at home.

The school holds two formal parents' evenings during the year when you can discuss your child's progress and development. You will receive a formal written report in the Summer term.

We operate an 'open-door' policy which welcomes parents or carers into their child's class and we encourage parents/carers to share any information that they feel school needs to be aware of which may be impacting on their child's health, wellbeing or learning. The staff are normally available for informal discussion from 8.40-8.50 am and after 3.30pm. Should you require a more formal meeting, please book an appointment through the school office.

In addition, each child has a home-school link book. Please use this as a method of communication between home and school - staff will also write messages in there which parents will find useful regarding their child's day at school.



Behaviour

Our policy is based upon rewarding good behaviour and making sure that this is highlighted when it is seen. This is done with 'wows!' and 'merit cards'. The 'wow!' is an instant praise for good things. Children can display their name to show that they have done something well. These 'wows!' are recorded on the children's 'merit card' which builds up through a series of stages. Children's good behavior and conduct can also earn them team points which enable a whole school and team approach to displaying good behaviour.

We also feel that inappropriate behaviour should not be ignored. Children sometimes need to be taught what is appropriate within school and what is not. Children are normally reminded about these things verbally by the class teacher. We operate a 'traffic light system' to monitor inappropriate behaviour. A child will be asked to move their name to 'amber' as a reminder that their behaviour is not appropriate. If the behaviours then continue the child will be asked to move their name to 'red'. If a 'red' comment occurs this is shared with parents in the home-school link book. If the school has any particular concerns about a child's behaviour the parents will always be informed.

Clubs and school activities

A broad range of extra-curricular clubs is offered to children from Reception to Year 6.

Treetops at Husthwaite is a before and after school club based at Husthwaite School. It is independently run and is Ofsted-registered. Before and after school care is available 7.30-8.45am and 3.20-6.30pm for children

from Reception to Year 6. If you are interested to know more about Treetops, please telephone Helen Morris on 07882 677625 or send an email to hamorris1@outlook.com for further information

Homework

Children in the nursery class will not receive homework but we do encourage them to share news from their weekend. Full details are contained in the School Homework Policy.

Medical/Health

If your child has any medical needs, please inform us of the details and any medication that needs administering. If your child suffers from asthma we have emergency inhalers in school that we can use should your child not have their medication with them. Parental written permission will need to be obtained in order for us to do this. Administration of prescribed medication can be undertaken by staff but only on completion of the necessary forms (available in the school office or on the school website).

Occasionally minor accidents do occur and these are dealt with as you would deal with any similar occurrences at home. There are trained First Aiders on the staff. If a more serious incident happens, and thankfully these do not happen often, then every effort is made to contact you. If emergency treatment is required, then appropriate action will be taken.

Uniform

We do not enforce the wearing of school uniform for nursery children but they are more than welcome to wear the uniform if you would prefer them to do so. The school colours are red and uniform can be purchased online directly from our suppliers :

http://school-shop.co.uk/husthwaite_ce_primary_school_yo61_4qa/

Jewellery - For safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn in school. If a watch is worn, it is at your own risk. Plain stud type earrings may be worn with pierced ears, but must be removed (independently) during PE sessions. This is in line with North Yorkshire County Council's policy.

Nursery children will need to have appropriate clothing to allow them to participate in outdoor learning in all weathers.



School Meals/snacks

We are fortunate to have our own kitchen and a cook who prepares meals for us here on the school site. There is a choice of a hot meal each day or a jacket potato and choice of fillings followed by a pudding, piece of fruit or yogurt. Nursery children are welcome to eat a school meal if they stay for lunch or they can bring their own pack-up. Currently children in years Reception, Year 1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal through the Universal Free School Meal scheme.

Children in nursery, reception and years 1 and 2 are also entitled to a piece of fruit each day through the Government's School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme. However, if preferred, parents can provide their child with their own healthy snack of fruit, vegetable, cheese etc.

All children under the age of 5 are entitled to free school milk as are children who are in receipt of free school meals. Children can continue to receive milk after the age of 5 but parents will need to register and pay for this service through the cool milk scheme (www.coolmilk.co.uk)

If you think you qualify for your child to receive free school meals, please ask at the office for the necessary application forms. Children who are entitled to free school meals also attract additional funding for the school. Your assistance in ensuring you are receiving all entitled funding is much appreciated.

Finally

The time that the children spend in Apple Tree Nursery should, above all, be an enjoyable experience for them and their families.

We believe that our Early Years Foundation Stage provides an exciting and stimulating introduction to education and that the children in our care will thrive and develop a love of life and learning.



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