



Nursery Newsletter for  
November - December 2016.

Dear Parents,

We would like to begin by thanking you for all your help and support during the first half term of Nursery. We know that starting Nursery is a huge step for all our children (and equally so for their parents!) and we would like to say a big thank you to everybody for making our first few weeks run as smoothly as possible. The children have all settled in well and are now ready for their next half term, which we hope will be full of lots of exciting events.

This half term we will continue to observe your child's interests, in order to continue with lots of child initiated planning. Along with this, we will also be finding out about Diwali, Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day and Christmas.

If you have any resources connected to any of the above then please send them into Nursery (clearly labelled with your child's name for us to share). We are also always happy to welcome visitors into our setting, to enrich our curriculum. Last academic year we had many fantastic visits from a lamb, chicks, ducklings, cats, kittens, dogs and even a hermit crab! Previous years Nursery children have also benefitted greatly from visits by paramedics, fire fighters, police officers, a clog dancer, babies and parents able to speak other languages etc. If you would like to come with a pet or to talk to us about your occupation or interests then please speak to our Nursery staff to arrange a visit.

This half term we will begin sharing our 'Home School Books' in our key worker groups. Please remember to take home your 'Home School Book' every Friday and to return it to Nursery on a Monday. Our Nursery children begin going into the hall for Tuesday morning Assemblies. We also begin introducing our 'Achievosaurus' (a set of dinosaurs which help our children to talk about how they and their friends learn).

Our focus in our 'Letters and Sounds' (phonic) sessions this half term will be 'Developing an awareness of rhythm and rhyme'. You can help with this at home

by reading rhyming books together, singing or chanting nursery rhymes and emphasising the words that rhyme. You could also play with rhyming words throughout the course of the day and have lots of fun with them.

In mathematics our focus will be counting in 1's forwards and backwards, singing lots of number rhymes and developing an understanding that numbers identify how many objects are in a set. Again you can help to support these concepts at home by finding counting opportunities in every part of everyday life e.g. counting socks in the sock drawer, plates on the table, stairs up to bed etc. Also, please remember our maths event for children and their parents/grandparents which is being held after Nursery on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 4-5pm.

Please can all children remember to bring a warm, waterproof coat, with a hood to school each day. They will also need a hat and mittens (these are easier for the children to manage than gloves) now the weather is getting colder. Could you also check that your child has a complete set of spare clothes on their peg in a drawstring bag. We are often struggling to find spare clothes for the children, after they have had an accident. They also feel happier in their own things, rather than Nursery stock. You may like to put in an extra spare set of socks/mittens in too now as we do still offer the outdoor classroom in the colder/wetter months. If you still have any Nursery clothing at home that your children have borrowed, please return them to school ASAP.

#### **Diary Dates :-**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** - Maths Event 4-5pm in our Early Years Unit (a previous letter with further information has already been sent out to you)

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November** - Armistice Event - Parents welcome (see School's main Newsletter for details)

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November** - individual photograph day

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November** - Fashion Show event (see School's main Newsletter for details)

**Friday 2nd December** - Christmas Fair 5-7pm.

Early Years Christmas Show - **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2pm** (for afternoon children and Reception) & **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 9.45am** (for morning nursery children and Reception). If your child attends full time nursery (on those particular days) they will be part of both shows.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas party day for all the children in our Foundation Stage Unit. During the morning, the children will be doing special Christmas activities in the Foundation Stage Unit. In the afternoon, the children will go into our school hall for party games. As some of our Nursery children only attend morning sessions, we are also inviting them back to Nursery in the afternoon for party games from 2.00-3.30pm should you wish for them to attend. There will be no charge for this, but obviously, if your child normally pays to attend the full three hours in the afternoon, they will still need to pay as normal. Reception children and 'all day' Nursery children will attend all day, as normal.

Finally, we would like to ask for your cooperation in leaving your children as quickly as possible at the start of the Nursery session (once you have taken them to the toilet). As you will have seen, we cannot allow the children onto our 'wet area' whilst the nursery door is open. This is for safety reasons and so the sooner we are able to get our door safely closed, the sooner the children can access our sand, water, painting and workshop areas. Thank you.

As always, if you have any questions regarding any aspect of Nursery life, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Many thanks,

From all our Early Years Team.

