



# Nursery Newsletter



Autumn term 2016

## Welcome and Reminders

It is lovely to welcome all the children and their families to Nursery. We have lots of new faces and we hope everyone is settling into their routine and enjoying the experience. In case some parents are not sure, if your children attend the morning session, they are in Cherry Nursery. Children who attend the afternoon session are in Apple Nursery.

This term we will continue to focus on getting to know the children, their ability and their interests. We have lots of exciting activities and experiences planned for the children so please do talk to them about their day.

From time to time we will send a home learning challenge which will be linked to our topics. Please look out for these on the notice board and in the book bags.

We are keen to get to know all about the children, if you haven't done so already, please can you provide a family photo for our family board.

Thank you to all those parents who have already signed up to join us on our library trip next week. Please make sure you visit the office to give them your details.

## Nursery Lending Library

At Hillcross we want to develop a love for reading. Sharing books together is an important stage in your child's reading development. All children in Nursery have the opportunity to borrow a book from the nursery to bring home and share with you each day. The children can choose any book from within the unit and these books should be chosen with you when the children first enter nursery. To help parents be aware of the different reading activities that can be completed with your child we provide all the children with a reading record book. We would love for parents and carers to write in this book and let us know if your child enjoyed the book and if you completed any of the suggested activities around the book. All we ask is that books are returned before a new book is taken home.

Many thanks.

## Our Guinea Pigs

As some of you are aware we have two lovely Guinea pigs in EYFS called Raspberry and Pippin. The children love looking after them, chatting to them and helping to take care of them. The Guinea Pigs love to have fresh treats daily so please feel free to bring in fresh vegetables for them if you would like to. They love cucumber, cabbage, celery, peppers, greens and dandelion leaves, although they are not allowed lettuce as it makes them poorly. They also like to visit people over the holidays so if you would like to take them home for the half term or over Christmas please speak to a member of staff. They come packed with sawdust, hay and food in their suitcase!

## P.E. Sessions

Please remember that Nursery participate in P.E. every **Monday**. Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate sports style clothing for this session. **Also please remember no earrings are permitted.** Many thanks.

## Session Times and Procedures

Our doors open at 8.30am and again at 12.15pm for the afternoon session. The doors and gates are then locked at 8.45am (offering a staggered opening for the morning session) and again at 12.20pm (for the afternoon session). If you arrive after these times then please take your child to the office to be marked in and escorted to nursery by the office staff. The end of sessions are 11.30am and 3.15pm, although we do have a more flexible end of session in afternoon nursery where you can collect your child from 3pm.

## Dates to Remember

### Week Beg: 3rd October:

**Wednesday 5th October;** EYFS & Year One Pedal push sponsor event. Letter now available on the website

**Thursday 6th October**– EYFS social event. Come and see the unit, play alongside your child, chat to staff and get to know the other parents. There will also be the opportunity to purchase photos of your child playing, a raffle and refreshments on sale.

### Week Beg: 10th October MATHS WEEK

**Monday 10th October**– Cherry and Apple trip to Morden Library (please see the school website for more details)

**Wednesday 12th October**– REFLECT PRODUCTIONS workshop based on 'Nigel's Numberless World' for Nursery

**Thursday 13th October**– EYFS Maths Carousel of activities

### Week Beg: 17th October Parent Evenings

### Week beg: 24th October– HALF TERM

### Week Beg: 31st October EYFS DISCO more details to follow

### Week beg: 7th November Individual photos

### Donations

Please could we ask all families to help in providing the following items:

- A box of Tissues
- Any recycling materials such as boxes, yoghurt pots, cardboard tubes etc.
  - Envelopes, catalogues and leaflets
- Material– any unwanted bed covers, sheets and curtains are all appreciated.
- We would also like clean towels and shower caps if anyone has spares or can donate.

We also welcome donations of toys and books too! Many Thanks in advance for your support with this.

### Friends of Hillcross

Every year we have lots of fundraising events taking place and the money from these goes directly back into the school to benefit your children. There is a small group who organise and run these events and they are always looking for new members and supporters. The group meet once a term and there is no minimum commitment required, if you can help we welcome you! The Friends of Hillcross group help to run the termly Discos, Christmas fete, Summer Fair, Summer ice pole sales and regular cake sales. If you could spare some time to join the group or are interested in helping and supporting the school with jobs and tasks that can be completed at home, as we know time is precious, such as running our twitter account or finding sponsors and donations from local businesses for our raffle prizes then please let us know and we can pass your details on. Not only do these fundraisers raise funds for the school they are also a great social event for families of the school to get to know each other. Please let us know if you are keen to get involved.

### School Website

Each week the Nursery team upload a selection of photos and work samples to the website to showcase our learning for that week.

Please log on to the website to take a look at what we have been doing.

The website is also full of additional information for parents and children and will be the place to find all dates and information of events.

### Spare Clothes and Wellington Boots

In nursery we often find children need to change clothes. Whether this is due to over excited water play or a toilet related accident we are happy to change the children and ensure they are comfortable and dry. We have a large supply of spare clothes within the unit and so there is no need for the children to bring spare clothes into nursery.

The children will continue to access the outside learning area even as the weather changes. Could we please request that all children have a pair of Wellington Boots in school. If they have a pair that they can leave in school we can then access the field whatever the weather!

In addition to this we would also request that all children have a waterproof coat in school everyday.

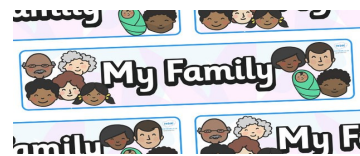
### Nursery staff

We hope that your child is settling well into Nursery and that you are establishing a good relationship with your keyworker.

Unfortunately due to a personal matter Jennifer Benson-Breen, will not be returning to work this half term. She hopes to return nearer Christmas and until this time Julia Edmondson will be key worker to the new children who arrived in September.

Our topic this term is:

### **'All About Me and My Family'**



This topic will help us get to know your children and give them a chance to tell us about themselves and their lives outside school. We hope that this topic will help the children settle and discover new friendships. We will be working on:

- Our physical skills by painting self portraits.
- Our personal skills by talking about what we are good at
- Our listening skills by singing our favourite songs, reading great stories and learning new rhymes.

We will also be thinking about our favourite things and making new friends.

### **Finally...**

We are a friendly bunch in Nursery, we would love to hear any comments, ideas or concerns you have about your children. Please do come and speak to us! We only ask that you wait until all the children have been safely dismissed to their parents at the end of the session, before approaching staff. Then we can happily give you our full attention.