



HIGHGATE

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thursday 2nd November 2023

Nursery Newsletter Autumn Term 2

Dear Parents

Welcome back to our second half of the autumn term. It has been wonderful to see the children happily return to school this week and we have been impressed by how well they have settled back into the routine.

Our topic this half term is 'Celebrations, Colour and Light' for which we have lots of lovely activities planned for the next few weeks. We are looking forward to discussing the different celebrations the children take part in at home during this time of year such as Halloween, Bonfire night, Diwali, Hanukkah and, of course, Christmas. We will also focus on recognition of the numerals 0 - 10 and learn about 2D shapes; using them in sensory play with cornflour 'ooblek', shaving foam and playdough, whilst also spotting shapes in our environment.

This half term we are introducing phonics into our daily routine. Phonics teaching in Nursery is based on developing the children's listening skills and their ability to distinguish individual sounds as well as appreciate rhythm, rhyme and alliteration. As part of this we will be introducing picture cards that represent the letters while focusing initially on the spoken sound (phoneme) rather than the letter itself (grapheme).

For much of the day, the children will be playing, socialising and learning together both inside and out. During each session the children will take part in two 'carpet times' where we will listen to and discuss a variety of themed stories, practise skills, learn new songs and join in with whole group activities such as singing, dancing and parachute games.

Contributions

We are always very grateful for contributions that you may be able to donate in order for us to enrich our craft activities and sensory messy play. Our current wish list includes:

- Food flavouring
- shaving/play foam
- fresh plant cuttings or herbs
- small cardboard boxes or tubes.

Any other donations of clothes, toys or books are also always welcome.



Headteacher: William Dean Highgate Primary School, Storey Road, London N6 4ED

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Hurrah Cards

In Nursery we love celebrating each other's significant achievements. Over the next few weeks we will be introducing Nursery 'Hurrah Cards'. If your child accomplishes something at home that you feel is special, significant or important (e.g. learning to swim or ride a bike, getting dressed independently, drawing a beautiful picture, sleeping in their bed through the night, writing their name, helping to cook a meal etc.), please write about it on one of these cards and bring it back to school. We will then share these special milestones with the whole class giving each recipient a big 'hurrah' and adding their card to our display! The cards will be available to pick up in the Nursery entrance area next week. We look forward to reading all about their endeavours.

Clothing

As you may already be aware, we open the doors to offer learning and play outside the classroom during every session, whatever the weather. Also, children love playing in the sand, water and in our messy sensory area, which can result in wet or dirty clothes. Please ensure that your child wears weather appropriate clothing and has a small bag on their peg with a change of clothes. Finally, if you value their clothing it is very helpful to have it labelled!

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 22 nd November	Parent Consultations 4-6pm (details to follow)
Thursday 23 rd November	Parent Consultations 6-8pm (details to follow)
Friday 24 th November	INSET day (School closed to all children)
Saturday 2 nd December	Winter Fair
Tuesday 19 th December	Nursery and Reception Nativity (9.30am)
Wednesday 20 th December	Last day of term (AM only - all children finish at 12)

Thank you for all your support, we are looking forward to another fun-filled half term!

With very best wishes,

Luke and all the Nursery Team.



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