



Highbury Foundation Stage Newsletter

Spring 1 2019

Welcome back to the Spring Term at Highbury. We hope you all had a happy and peaceful Christmas break. The class teachers have been busy decorating our classrooms for this term's theme book which is 'The Magic Train Ride' and they look wonderful. The children in the Reception and Daisy classes all enjoyed their own train ride last week to Portsmouth Harbour, which was a really valuable experience for them.

Collecting children

Please may we remind you all not to enter the classrooms when collecting your children from the Nursery or Reception classes. Please wait outside the door (Squirrel, Daisy 2 & 3) or outside the gate (Hedgehog & Daisy 1) and a member of staff will bring your child to you. This is to ensure the safety of all our children.

Nursery Attendance and Absence

We believe that regular attendance at nursery is essential if children are to benefit from their nursery care. This is especially the case for those older children as nursery prepares them for the routine of attending school full-time when the time comes. Ultimately it is the parents/carers responsibility for ensuring that their child attends regularly and on time. It can be unsettling for all the children in the class when others are leaving early or arriving late for their session, and it can also mean that they miss valuable parts of their learning i.e. welcome time, which includes learning the days, months and weather for the day. Please ensure that you phone the Foundation Office on 02392 215600 if your child will not be attending their session for any reason.

Diary Dates:

Fri 15th Feb - INSET day (school only. Nursery remains open)

18th - 22nd Feb - Half Term

Fri 22nd March - Disco (Reception only)

8th - 22nd April - Easter Holidays

Tues 23rd April - Back to school

27th - 31st May - Half Term

Fri 28th June - Disco (Reception only)

Fri 19th July - break up for summer

Mon 22nd July - INSET day

Tues 23rd July - INSET day



If we have not received a phone call, we will try to call you to obtain a reason for the absence. If the child stays absent for 3 consecutive days and no contact has been achieved, a home visit will be carried out on the fourth day. If this is unsuccessful and the absence continues to a fifth day, an Inter-Agency Referral will be made. If parents wish to have a longer period of absence for example to take a holiday, then a Leave of Absence form will need to be completed.

30 Hours Childcare Funding

You may be eligible for an additional 15 hours childcare funding if both parents are working. To check whether you are eligible, please visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk. Applications must be submitted by 31st March 2019 for the funding to be in place for the Summer Term (after the Easter break). Please ensure that you also speak to us to make sure that we have the space to accommodate the extra hours that you need, as our places are filling up fast.

Tapestry

Please remember to regularly check your child's Learning Journal through your Tapestry account. You will be able to see what they have been learning during their days at school and nursery. You can also upload your own photos showing their teachers and keyworkers all the exciting things they have been doing at home and during their weekends. Please come into the Foundation office if you cannot log into your Tapestry account and we can reset it for you.

Lillie Joss



We are very excited to announce that Lillie Joss is expecting her first child in March! I'm sure you will join us in wishing her huge congratulations. Lillie will therefore be leaving us for maternity leave at Half Term. If Lillie is your child's Keyworker we will let you know who will replace her shortly.

Scopay

Scopay is a new system we are using to enable you to make on-line payments for items such as school trips, Breakfast and After School Clubs and school dinners (but not Nursery fees). If you haven't already signed up to use Scopay, please visit either the main school office or the Foundation office to obtain the login details.

Coats

Please ensure you send your child in with a warm winter coat for outside play. Gillets/bodywarmers are not appropriate. Thank you.