

NEWSLETTER 1 – 11th September 2017



A very warm welcome to everyone

The start of the academic year is always a very exciting time as we welcome new families to our setting and welcome back familiar faces! We hope you all had a lovely summer!

We are sure that the children will soon be used to everything, but in the meantime if there is anything you are unsure about then please just ask a member of staff.

New Staff

We are delighted to welcome Julie as our new Key Person in Nursery and Elizabeth is joining us as an apprentice. Lisa Archer has stepped up and is now our full time Nursery teacher. Natalie has returned from her maternity leave and will be working with us on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Charlotte's baby is due in November and she is due to commence her maternity leave at half term. We are sure you will make our new staff feel very welcome and will bear with us whilst they get up to speed!

STAFFING STRUCTURE – SEPTEMBER 2017

| Headteacher - Bernice Jackson | |
|---|--|
| Nursery team | Pre-School team |
| Charlotte Jones – Nursery Teacher Lisa Archer – Nursery Teacher Elaine McKeer - Nursery Teacher, part time Zuzana Neville - Key Person, part time Petra Charles - Key Person Julie McLennan – Key Person Kayleigh Brooks - Key Person and Wraparound Gosia Pawlaczyk - Nursery Practitioner and Wraparound Helen Wynne – Nursery Practitioner Tina Hollingshead – Nursery/Pre-School Practitioner Becky Mullan – Nursery Practitioner Natalie Lowton - Nursery Practitioner, part time Elizabeth Alletto – Nursery Apprentice | Michelle Long - Room Leader/Key Person Michaela Broderick – Key Person Helen Macaulay – Key Person Lisa Cooper – Key Person Tracy Upson - Pre-School Assistant, part time Jodie Oliver - Pre-School Assistant, part time Tina Hollingshead – Nursery/Pre-School Practitioner |
| <u>Office Staff</u> Sam Godfrey - School Secretary Tina Berry – Admin Assistant | <u>Midday Supervisors</u> Tina Hollingshead Sheena Coldwell Tracy Upson Gosia Pawlaczyk Jodie Oliver Kerri Dark Ramona Roman Denise Andrews |

Parking outside school

Please always park considerately outside school when dropping off or collecting your child. Our neighbours frequently have their drive ways blocked by a few inconsiderate parents.

Please support us to maintain good relationships with our neighbours.



Packed lunch clubs

Please can you ensure that you do not include any products containing nuts in the children's packed lunches. Nut allergies are increasingly common and although children are not allowed to share packed lunches we want to avoid having any nuts in any form to protect all of our children. We would ask all parents to send in a healthy packed lunch, **with no sweets** and to make sure that you do not send in too much food for them. Please look on our website for leaflets regarding healthy packed lunches under the 'Parent Information' section.

Birthday celebrations

We do understand that your child's birthday is a very important celebration for them. We always give your child a card and the class sing 'Happy Birthday' to them and they blow out the candles on an imitation cake. A reminder that we ask you not to send in cakes, biscuits or sweets to have in class or to send home. We always have children who for medical or religious reasons cannot eat certain foods and this causes a lot of upset in the room. Instead, if you would like to celebrate your child's birthday in school, then we ask you to send in a book with a message written in the front that can be added to our book boxes. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Money in school

We will no longer be accepting loose cash handed into the office as this caused numerous difficulties last year. We would strongly recommend that parents pay via Wisepay (our online banking system) – you will all be receiving your log in details shortly.

If you do need to pay by cash then this must be placed in a sealed envelope and posted in the boxes outside the Pre-School classroom and outside the main school office. Please do not give envelopes to staff containing money.



Baby Rhyme Time – NEW TIME of 10 -10.45am

Baby Rhyme Time is a free club for parents and carers to come along and have a sing song with Tina. It is an opportunity for babies and toddlers to mix with other children, learn some songs, play some instruments and for the adults to make friends. This club is open to everyone – even if you do not have a child at Kingswood, or your child is joining us in the future.



Kingswood will be celebrating their 75th Birthday on Saturday 23rd September 2017 12-3pm!

Please come and join us! It will be so lovely to see lots of families!

Kingswood Evening Group

A delightful group of local residents use the staff room once a month to get together and have some fun! At the end of the Summer they very kindly gave school a donation of £117. **Thank you ladies!**



Date for your diary 'Right from the Beginning – ways to engage children as learners' Workshops for parents
These workshops will address ways to support your child to be an effective learner.

Wednesday 4th October at 10.30, 12.30 and 6pm – one hour workshops

- ❖ How does emotional well-being link to learning?
- ❖ How can you support your child to develop a love of learning?
- ❖ In what ways can you support your child at home?
- ❖ How can you work in partnership with school to enable your child to reach their potential?

Date for your diary:

One World Week

We will be celebrating 'One World Week' just before half term and all parents and carers are invited to open sessions, to take part in activities with your child, on

Thursday 19th October between 8.30-10am and 12.30-2pm.

Come along and see a wide selection of activities that your child takes part in! Your child loves to see you there, even if you can only join for part of the session.

AUTUMN TERM 2017 Forthcoming events for parents and families:

| Date | Time | Event | Place |
|---|--|--|--|
| Saturday 23 rd September | 12-3pm | 75 th Birthday Event! | <i>Hopefully outside – weather permitting!</i> |
| Wednesday 4 th October | 10.30 – 11.30am 12.30 – 1.30pm 6 – 7pm | ‘Right from the Beginning – ways to engage children as learners’ Workshops for parents | Staffroom |
| Thursday 5 th October | 11am and 12.30pm | Singing and Story sessions with your child. <i>Come along and hear story time and join in with some singing!</i> | Nursery and Pre-School classrooms |
| w/b Monday 16 th October | Individual appointments | Nursery Parent/Staff consultations. (Pre-School ongoing) | Venue varies |
| Wednesday 18 th October | Leave school at 9.30 and 1.30 | ‘Shoe-box walk’. Help us walk the children down to Stanborough Church to deliver shoeboxes. | Meet in classrooms |
| Thursday 19 th October | 8.30-10am 12.30-2pm | ‘One World Week’ open sessions for parents and carers. <i>Come along and join your child in their play.</i> | Inside and outside classrooms |
| 23 rd – 27 th October HALF TERM | Half Term Family Learning challenge – ‘My First Time’. Tell us about an activity your child/family has done for the first time! | | |
| Wednesday 1 st November | 11am and 12.30pm | Come in and hear a talk about the Pre-School we sponsor in Ethiopia. | Nursery classroom |
| Weds 1 st and Thursday 2 nd November | PEEKABOO PHOTOGRAPHERS in school – photos back in time for Christmas! | | |
| Wednesday 8 th November | 10.30 – 11.30am 12.30 – 1.30pm 6 – 7pm | ‘Reading Workshops – ways to develop a love of reading with your child’. Workshops for parents | Staffroom |
| Tuesday 28 th November | 10.30 and 12.30 | ‘Road Safety workshops for parents’. (Nursery only) | Nursery classroom |
| Friday 8 th December | 11am and 12.30pm | Singing and Story sessions with your child. <i>Come along and hear story time and join in with some singing!</i> | Nursery and Pre-School classrooms |
| Wednesday 13 th December | 10.30am and 2pm | Christmas performances to parents <i>Blue and Green groups</i> | Nursery classroom |
| Thursday 14 th December | 10.30am and 2pm | Christmas performances to parents <i>Red and Yellow groups</i> | Nursery classroom |
| Tuesday 19 th December | Last day of term. Open 10 -12 noon. All welcome. | | |
| 20 th December – Tuesday 2 nd January Christmas holidays | Holiday Family Learning challenge – ‘Giving’. Tell us about an activity your child/family has done linked to the theme of giving! <i>Maybe a gift, your time, help you have given</i> | | |

Children return to school on Wednesday 3rd January 2018

- **From Monday 6th November:** children in **nursery** need to apply for a reception place. Applications open from this day if your child was born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014. You will receive an application pack from Herts County Council with details.

We would strongly recommend that you look on primary school’s websites to find out when they are holding open days for you to have a look around. Do not miss this important opportunity.