

## A wonderful time of the year...

It has been wonderful to witness the awe and wonder of Christmas, through the children's eyes. They observe small details with such fascination, such as the fairy lights, or shiny baubles on the tree, as they make connections in order to understand the world around them.



We were pleased to see so many of you in school for our Festive Stay and Play Sessions. I hope this provided you with the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of how your child learns through play, at school, guided by skilled practitioners.

There is much information in this newsletter; please take note of dates as well as additional information which you may find supportive.

It is my sincere wish that you can enjoy a happy and healthy holiday over the coming weeks. I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas.

*Mrs Macdonald*

## THANK YOU



The children looked so festive last week in their jumpers! Thank you for such generous donations of gifts for local families in need.



### DATES

Last day of Pre-School  
Tuesday 19th December

NURSERY CELEBRATION  
PRE BOOK with £5 DONATION  
10am-12pm  
Weds 20th December

SCHOOL CLOSED  
21st December to 3rd January

We look forward to welcoming  
you back to school on  
First Day of Spring Term:

THURSDAY  
4th January 2024





## SCHOOL ADMISSIONS ARE OPEN

If your child is in Nursery  
you need to have  
completed your school  
admissions form online, by  
January 14th 2024.

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk  
/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

If your child is in Pre  
School and they turn 4  
between 1st September  
2024 and 31st August 2025  
please ensure you have  
completed your Nursery  
Admission form:

[https://form.jotformeu.co  
m/83372485558368](https://form.jotformeu.com/83372485558368)

## Welcome Cath!



We are delighted that Cath Monahan has joined the Pre School Team as a Key Person. She will play a pivotal role in settling our new children into the routine from January.

## Goodbye Steven!



Steven is a visiting teacher from Ludwick Nursery School and has been supporting the Pre School Team one day a week for this term only. This has been a wonderful opportunity to share outstanding practice. He will be missed.

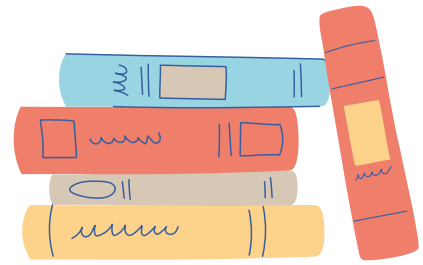


'where learning is an exciting adventure'

## HOLIDAY LEARNING

As a parent you are powerful in determining your child's future academic success. During the holiday you can support their learning by:

- Reading a book or telling them a story
- Talking to them and encouraging them to talk to you and other family members
- Look at previous photos of celebrations and talk about what you did
- Involving them helping in household jobs such as hanging out washing, loading the washing machine, unpacking shopping, and setting the table
- Going for a 15 minute walk, to the park, or early evening to look at the Christmas lights



**READ, TALK, WALK!**  
Aim to do this  
**EVERY DAY.**







# Holiday Support



Some families can experience stress during the holidays. Should you require support during this time you can visit here for a range of organisations who may be able to help.

<https://www.justtalkherts.org/parents/advice-for-parents.aspx>

The freephone, 24-hour National  
Domestic Abuse Helpline:  
0808 2000 247

Refuge Online Chat:  
<https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/en/Chat-to-us-online>



Herts NHS Mental Health line:



Mental health support at any time of the day or night  
**Helpline: 0800 6444 101**

We are available 24/7 for Herts residents who:

- are experiencing a mental health crisis
- need some mental health support
- just want to talk

Email: [hpft.spa@nhs.net](mailto:hpft.spa@nhs.net) (for non-urgent queries)



**We're here for you this winter**

We all need a little support from time to time, free information and advice is available.

Call HertsHelp on 0300 123 4044  
or visit [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hereforyou](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hereforyou)



SCAN ME



**Need help and don't know where to turn?**

**Contact HertsHelp**

- Support in a crisis or difficult time
- Getting help to manage at home
- Feeling safe and confident leaving hospital
- Advice on paying for care
- Support if you are caring for someone
- Becoming more active and healthy
- Find out what's on in your local community
- Make sure you have your say

We're here to listen and help you find the independent support, advice and information you need.



HertsHelp is a network of community organisations working together to provide information and advice on local community services in Hertfordshire.

**0300 123 4044    [info@hertshelp.net](mailto:info@hertshelp.net)**