



Newsletter Newsletter

April 2017



Teaching and Learning

Welcome back. We are pleased to welcome new children into all three classrooms. The planning is displayed outside each of the three Nursery classrooms. This will explain to you what activities we are doing and how this supports your child's learning. We also plan 'adult focused' activities for small groups and individuals to support particular learning outcomes which provides a focus for both adult planned activities and for enhancements to our continuous provision. Practitioners work in partnership with children, skillfully and sensitively interacting to support and develop their learning. We also have copies of the rhyme of the week for you to take home and enjoy with your child.

Nursery 1 and 2 are both exploring growth and change of plants, animals and humans. Children will have the opportunity to plant seeds and consider what conditions they need to be able to flourish and grow. We will be looking at how children themselves have changed since they were born. The role play area will be transformed into a baby clinic which will provide opportunities for weighing, measuring, making appointments and writing for a variety of purposes. Books such as 'Jaspers Beanstalk' and 'Jack and the beanstalk' will help children to appreciate the concept of growth and change.

The vegetable patches will be planted with seeds that will hopefully produce a harvest for children to cook and eat. Each classroom will soon have some tadpoles that children can observe as they make their natural transformation into frogs. Children are encouraged to produce observational drawings as they study the features and reproduce these with their own representations. Once the frogs are fully grown they are safely returned back into their natural habitat.

Sunflowers and beans will be planted in the classrooms and these will help develop children's mathematical awareness relating to height, and the comparative language of size.

Nursery 3 is looking at 'our world'. This will cover journeys, maps, globes and road safety. Writing will be encouraged through looking at environmental print displayed on signs, posters, shop fronts and buses. The role play shop will support mathematical enquiry through exploring numbers and prices and talk about shape, space and measure.

A walk into Saltaire will also draw children's attention to the local historic buildings.

Early years pupil premium - do you qualify?

The Early Years Pupil Premium provides up to an extra £302 a year for each child taking up their full hours of funded early education. We can use the extra funding to continue to improve the quality of the early years education we already provide for your child, e.g. for additional staff, resources or training to further our expertise. It is well documented that high quality early education can influence how well a child does at both primary and secondary school so we do want to make the most of this additional funding.

You may be aware if you have older children that a pupil premium has been available for school age children and it has proved to have given a real boost to the children receiving the funding. We want to do the same for our early years children entitled to this funding. Therefore we ask **ALL PARENTS and GUARDIANS** to complete the voluntary registration form and return it to us as soon as possible. This will allow us to claim the additional Early Years Pupil Premium to benefit your child.

* * * * *

Please remember to return your 30 hours questionnaire for September to allow us to plan our provision according to your needs.

* * * * *



Life caravan visit on Wednesday 26th April

helping children make healthy choices

The life caravan will be in the car park for all Nursery school children to attend a session on learning how to look after their bodies. The Life Caravan staff will discuss healthy eating and exercise and the need to care for ourselves in order to stay healthy and safe. These sessions are a fun and interactive way for children to gain new knowledge.



Save the Children®

Wednesday 10th May muddy puddles

During outdoor play we will have builders trays with water for children to splash in and out of ... please remember to bring wellington boots for your child to join in. Donation buckets in Reception - thank you



Wednesday 17th May road safety

The Bradford road safety team will be visiting to talk with children about staying safe. There will be both morning and afternoon sessions for all children to participate.



Lou Sumray, artist visits

Lou Sumray will be spending three Wednesdays in June here at Hirst Wood. She will be working with children outdoors and using their interests as her creative inspiration. Look out for displays and photographs of how the children responded to having an artist in residence.

Health & Safety

Please note that we have children with severe nut allergies and whilst we appreciate the fantastic recycled materials that you donate for our technology areas, could we please ask that you check any boxes that you bring into Nursery do not have any traces of nuts - this should be printed on the packaging. Thank you for helping us keep children safe and healthy.

During the summer months it may be necessary that children need sun protection to be applied (hopefully!). In this respect the Nursery will provide sun cream for each classroom unless your child has specific skin sensitivities that would necessitate the use of their own specific cream. If this is the case, please bring in the sun protection clearly labelled with your child's name. If you could apply sun-cream to your child before they come to Nursery and we will reapply it later in the day. Thank you.

* * * * *

Remember, remember

Wednesday 3rd May - Tempest Photographers - each child will be photographed individually (if they are happy to be) during their normal Nursery session. If you would like a photograph of your child with their sibling/s, please come along before the start of your child's session (8.30 for morning children /12.15 for afternoon children)

Monday 1st May - closed for Bank Holiday

Thursday 25th May - close for Spring Bank holiday

Friday 26th May - training day

Monday 5th June - school reopens