


Welcome to Spring Term 2017

Diary Dates


Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February 2017 Half term-
No Funded children

Monday 20th February 2017 - Friday 24th February 2017 Half
term -Holiday Club




27th February - 3rd March Storytelling week This is linked to World Book Day on the **2nd March** where the children are invited to dress up as their favourite story characters. Each room will be focusing on their favourite stories, making props, puppets and displays. If any parents or family members would like to come in and read to our children, please let your child's key person know.

Tuesday 7th March- Parents Evening - Please see your child's key person to book an appointment to discuss your child's development. We would also be most grateful for your input on what your child can do at home and in reviewing and evaluating your child's next steps.



Friday 24th March We are hoping to raise lots of money for Red Nose Day -Comic Relief by dressing up in our pyjamas, please bring your child in their P.J's on this day with a £2 donation. If you would like further information about our charity event please look on <http://www.rednoseday.com/>

24 March 2017



Monday 27th March 2017 "Mother's Day Tea Party" Pre- School / Ladybirds, Mummy's/ Carers are invited to join us for a celebratory tea party. Please see your child's key person if you are able to join us.



Thursday 6th April - We will be holding an Easter hat parade, which children of all ages can enter, so get your creative thinking HATS on!

Easter Holidays

Friday 14th April 2017- Good Friday Nursery is closed

Monday 17th April 2017 -Easter Monday Nursery is closed

Monday 10th April - Friday 21st April 2017 Easter holidays, No Nursery Education 3-4 year old funding

No Funded children /No stretched funded children in week commencing 17th April

Monday 10th-Friday 21st April 2017- Easter Holiday Club

Monday 24th April Nursery Education Funded children return to nursery.




General information.....



Highwood Day Nursery Ofsted inspection took place on 22nd November 2016 and we are very pleased to inform our parents that we were rated "Good." We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents, especially those who supported us. Thank you. Please read our latest report located in the hallway or online.

A reminder about your child's bag

A photograph of a child's backpack, open, showing various items inside including a blue water bottle, a yellow container, and other miscellaneous objects.

We would like to ask that you are careful when packing children's bags for nursery. As parents it is understandable that everything other than the kitchen sink usually goes into your child's day bag as when you are out and about it is good to be prepared for all eventualities, however not all these items are safe in the hands of children. We have found an array of items in children's bags that could be harmful to children for various reasons. Within some of the nursery rooms bags are accessible to the children so we would like to urge you not to put anything in your child's bag that could be potentially dangerous. Bottles, spare clothes, comforters and nappies are all we need. Any other items such as medications or creams should be given to a member of staff.

Children in Need 2016 and Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our fundraising days. The children (and staff alike!) had so much fun coming into nursery dressed up and joining in with all the fun activities for such good causes. There was lots of fun to be had with making and decorating biscuits, sticking and painting pictures, play dough and much more!

Outdoor Clothing

As the weather is still a little unpredictable can you ensure that your child(ren) come to nursery with water proof coats, hat and gloves so that they are prepared for any weather and can still enjoy the outdoors as we do go outside every day. Please can we

also remind parents and carers to clearly label these with your child's name to avoid any mix up's.

Breakfast

A polite reminder to parents/carers that breakfast time finishes at 8.00 a.m for children age 2 and above. We can offer your child cereals at snack time which is at 9.15-9.30 if your child has not had breakfast.

Fee Increase

Highwood Day Nursery had its annual fee increase in January 2017. Please take extra care when looking at your invoices and note the change in price. If you have any questions regarding this please don't hesitate to speak to us.

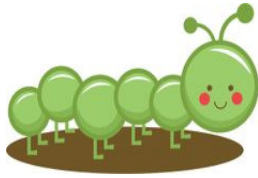
Contact

If you would like to pass any messages on to the nursery you can contact us by the land line or email.

The land line number is: 01283 565069

The email address is: info@highwooddaynursery.co.uk

Caterpillar room



Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and the staff would like to wish all the children and their parents a very Happy New Year. Welcome back to all our babies in the Caterpillar room, and a special welcome to our new starters this term, Charlie T, Charlie, Enzo and Maxwell, who are all beginning to settle in very well.

Over the next few months we will be saying goodbye to some of our older caterpillars who will be moving into the Butterfly room, Xander, Alex, Beatrix and Dylan. We will miss them very much and wish them lots of luck but know they will have so much fun!!

The caterpillars have been very busy since coming back from their Christmas time off, getting back into the caterpillar routine and making them feel right at home again with lots of fun messy play activities and games.

As we are still experiencing very cold weather, please remember to dress your child for the weather conditions with warm coats, hats, scarves and mittens (if possible- better and easier than gloves) every day.

As it was the Chinese New year on the 28th of January - and year of the Rooster, the babies have been exploring feathers and making rooster pictures.

As Valentine's Day is fast approaching, we will be making Valentine Day cards and decorating hearts for the babies to take home to their loving Mummy's and Daddy's. This is closely followed by Shrove Tuesday, also known as Pancake day where we will be having taste sessions and trying some pancakes.

St Patrick's Day is the 17th March, we will be coming to nursery in green clothes and doing lots of green St Patrick's day activities such as painting four leaf clovers and doing some green gloop messy play.

Mother's day is the 26th March and all of our babies will be making some special gifts and cards in the week leading up to it for their very special mothers.

Then in April it will be time to prepare for Easter as the caterpillar room has its very own Easter egg hunt for the babies. We will also be making Easter cards and doing some Easter themed mark making.

The caterpillars will be creating lots of new pictures and art work to keep our displays updated and we will be doing a messy play display to show just how much we love our sensory experiences.

Butterflies



We welcome all of the new butterflies that have joined us in the New Year, we hope you enjoy your time with us in the butterfly room.

Goodbye and good luck to all the butterflies who have moved through to the ladybird room and will continue to have lots of fun on their learning journey at Highwood.

Can we remind all parents to bring in hats, scarves, and gloves as the children love to be outdoors and explore.

If your child is potty/toilet training please can you send your child with plenty of trousers, socks and t-shirts.

We will be learning about Chinese New Year and this year it will be the year of the Rooster, the children will be mark making using finger paints to create colourful Roosters and using fine motor skills to make Chinese lanterns and fans to take home to our families.

The butterflies will be very busy exploring different Chinese foods using them for messy play to explore their own senses through taste, smell and touch.

P.D "Health and Self Care 16-26 months willing to try new foods textures and taste"

For Valentine's Day we will be learning about feelings using expression puppets, emotion cards and mirrors. We will also be discussing important people in our life and those that we care for and love. The children will be getting creative, making cards for our loved ones. Please feel free to wear red or pink these colours will be linked to our malleable/messy play.

PSED managing feelings and behaviour 22-36 months

"Can express their own feelings such as sad, happy, cross scared or worried"

As it will be Pancake Day soon the children will have the opportunity to taste pancakes with a variety of toppings. The children will be investigating the texture of flour and water mixed together for messy play, the children will be looking closely at how the mixture changes and combines together into one.

EAD Exploring using media and materials

30-50 months "beginning to be interested in and describe the texture of things"

We are currently updating our construction display with new pictures. The children will be busy taking part in construction printing exploring different prints and techniques

which will be added to our display. Each day the children will have opportunities to explore different construction toys this will enable them to work out how it is used to enable them to build structures, we will help to develop this skill by asking the children what they have built encouraging them to use their imagination.

EAD Being Imaginative

22-36 months "Beginning to make believe by pretending"

On 17th March we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day. The children will be printing shamrocks using peppers in green paint. The children will have the opportunity to name and explore green objects. We will be making green play dough to extend the children's learning.

As the season will be changing in to spring we will be discussing the changes in weather and looking at clothing suitable for us to wear. The children will be participating in lots of different spring inspired activities so that they can learn all about the new season, new life and how things grow. Their work will be used to create a spring display board inside of the room.

Spring topic will be linked to how things grow where the children will have hands on experience in planting seeds and learning how to care for them in order for them to grow.

In our free flow area there will be a garden centre where the children can explore soil/ water seeds and garden tools.

UW The World

*30-50 months " Developing an understanding of growth , decay and changes over time"
"Shows care and concern for living things and the environment".*

The children will be getting creative making special cards and gifts for parents/carers for Mothers day.

We will be creating drawings of their families to go on the family board. Please could you bring in any family photo's or send via info@highwooddaynursery.co.uk to put on our display.

UW People and Communities

22-36 Months "Has a sense of own immediate family and relations"

As Easter approaches we will be exploring lots of Easter activities such as finding chicks in shredded paper, Easter egg hunts, colouring, making nest cakes and eating lots of chocolate eggs. The children will be turn taking with each other when participating in egg and spoon races .

The role play area will be changed into a Hairdressers. The children can practice using different tools and using their imagination based on first hand experiences.

Ladybird room



A big warm welcome to all our new starters hope you all settle in well and enjoy ladybird life ☺

The last week of **January** we will be celebrating Chinese New Year, this year being the year of the Rooster. The children will be busy creating colourful lanterns and developing hand eye co-ordination adding colourful ribbons and streamers creating Chinese dragons. There will be given opportunities to manage and support the children's learning researching on the computer for dragon dancing, encouraging the children to have a go at it themselves.

Towards the end of the week we will be busy enjoying a Chinese Banquet enabling the children to try out new foods and discuss likes/dislikes. Our role play area will be changed into a Chinese restaurant enabling and encouraging the children to adapt their learning through first hand experiences.

- *Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world.*
- *Beginning to move rhythmically.*
- *Imitates movement in response to music.*
- *Uses available resources to create props to support role-play.*
- *Creates movement in response to music*

February

We will be holding a red/pink day on **14th February** we will be developing our fine motor using tweezers linking numbers when counting how many love heart sequins are needed for the correct number pots. We will be busy enjoying red messy play activities, decorating biscuits and making cards developing the children's scissor control to attempt to cut out pre drawn hearts themselves.

- *Uses simple tools to effect changes to materials.*

• Handles tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control.

The children will be learning about homes and where they live. This will be linked to Our new story "The three little pigs" the children will be exploring and using different techniques to create three houses for our new display using bricks to paint, collaging with straw and making arrangements with sticks. We will be busy developing our scissor control to cut out items to put onto the pre-drawn template of the house discussing what items go in each room and what items they may have at home.

• Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall.

• Describes main story settings, events and principal characters.

• Remembers and talks about significant events in their own experience.

On **Tuesday 28th February** we will be enjoying delicious pancakes with various toppings as well as enjoying creating our own malleable mixture using flour and water, this activity will also be linked to forest school on **Wednesday 1st March** as we will be making a batter mix outside and making pancakes around a open fire. Exploring what happens when the ingredients are combined together and also linking this to our letters and sounds distinguishing sounds that they can hear.

• Talks about why things happen and how things work.

• Uses talk to connect ideas, explain what is happening and anticipate what might happen next, recall and relive past experiences.

We will be celebrating St. David's day on **Wednesday 1st March** the children will be creating 3D Daffodil pictures using egg cartons and handprints this will an opportunity to speak to the children about change of season now that it will be turning into spring. We will be changing our seasonal table with spring themed items and story book to look at.

Friday 17th March is St. Patrick's Day we will be busy creating shamrocks as well as having green themed activities, children can feel free to dress up in their green clothes.

We will be learning about new life looking at life cycles of the frog and the butterfly. Our literacy focus will be "The very hungry caterpillar " we will be extending the children's learning intentions through counting, sequencing and trying the fruits from the story, making a graph of which fruit is the favourite?... please keep a look out for this display 😊

- *Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall.*
- *Describes main story settings, events and principal characters.*
- *Beginning to represent numbers using fingers, marks on paper or pictures.*

Sunday 26th March is Mothers day we will be making cards and other special treats. We will be holding a special gathering on Monday 27th March inviting Mummy's for a afternoon tea at 3.30pm please let us know if you can attend.

Over Easter we will be enjoying a Easter egg hunt and a Easter bonnet parade some yummy prizes are to be won!!!

The pre-school children will be getting crafty when decorating a polystyrene egg to take home as well as matching patterned eggs together to make a whole one.

Sunday 23rd April 2017 is St Georges Day We will be celebrating St George's Day in pre-school on Monday 24th April by investigating some of England's customs and traditions, and exploring all about knights, castles and dragons!