

Welcome to Highwood Day Nursery Summer term newsletter. We are approaching a very busy term., so we will start with some important dates for your diary.

Monday 7th May - Bank Holiday - Nursery is closed

Monday 28th May - Bank Holiday - Nursery is closed

Monday 28th May - 1st June - Half term Nursery Education Funding children

Tuesday 15th May - "Kings and Queens" Cracker Jacks Charity Day

Wednesday 16th May - Tempest Photography will be visiting pre-school for Highwood's leavers Graduation Photo's.

11th June - Father's Day week. All Dads are invited to join us to stay and play during this week. Please see your child's key person if you are able to join us.

Tuesday 3rd July - Parents Evening 6.30 - 8.20

Tuesday 10th July - Graduation Party for Pre-School Leavers This will take place at nursery between 6.30 - 7.30pm for all of the Ladybirds going to school. The theme for this year's prom is 'Rainbows'.

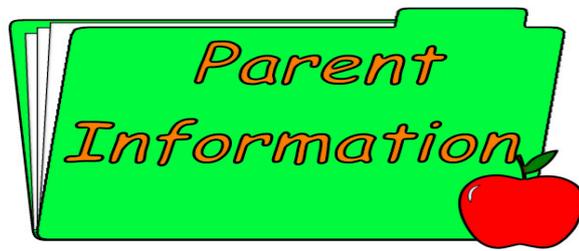
Friday 20th July - Last day of term

Monday 23rd July to Friday 31st August -No funding for Nursery Educational Grant

Monday 23rd July to Friday 31st August -Summer holiday club

Monday 27th August - Bank Holiday - Nursery is closed

Monday 3rd September -Autumn term begins /Nursery Educational Grant recommences



Medication

Could all parents please be aware that any prescribed medication, including asthma inhalers, must be brought into nursery in the named box that it was prescribed in, this is to ensure the correct dosage is given and following the update in the new **Statutory Early Years Framework 2017** that all prescription medicine must not be administered unless they have been prescribed for a child by a Doctor, Dentist, Nurse or Pharmacist. If you have any queries regarding this, please speak to your child's key person.

Sickness

We cannot stress too strongly that sick children must be kept at home please. A poorly child doesn't cope well with the bustle of the nursery and the spread of infection is significantly increased. We are sure everyone would recognise that this is something we would all want to avoid. What may not be quite so obvious is the major impact this has on the health of the entire staff team. This is something Highwood depends on completely, not only for 'bright eyed and bushy tailed' practitioners but also for the place to open every morning!

Please consider that if you have to give your child Calpol or Nurofen before coming to Nursery - that if they need this medication then they may not be well enough to attend.

There appears to be quite a few 'bugs' around at the moment and so your understanding is much appreciated.

Weather

We would kindly ask that you send your child in appropriate clothing for when we are playing outdoors. As the weather gets warmer, we would ask that you apply **8 hour sun cream to your child before they start their session**. If your child attends all day then sun cream will need to be provided in order for staff to reapply after lunch in hot weather. Please ensure the sun cream is named and that you have signed our sun cream procedure form. Please ensure your child has a coat with them every session and we discourage children wearing flip-flops and crocs for safety reasons.



Mobile phone policy



Just a reminder! There is a mobile phone ban within nursery. This is at the request of Staffordshire Safeguarding children's Board and we ask for your co-operation with regards to this, if your mobile rings in nursery, staff will ask you to take the call outside the premises, this is for the safety of all our children.

Policies



We would like to inform parents that our main policies are displayed on the Parent's Notice Board, if you would like a paper copy they are available on request.



Just a friendly reminder...

Nursery Sessions - If you need to change your sessions for any reason or terminate your place at the nursery we require four weeks written notice as stated in our terms and conditions.



Photographer

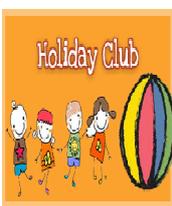
The photographer will be in nursery on Wednesday 16th May for Pre-school Graduation photographs from 9.30 am.



Opening hours

We would remind all parents that nursery opens at 7.00 am and closes at 6.15 pm, staff are asked not to admit children before 7.00 or have children on the premises after 6.15 as we are not covered on our insurance policy or our OFSTED registration. Parents are asked to arrive a few minutes before 6.15 pm to allow for feedback and departure before closing time. Parents who are continually late, will be charged a small fee.

Holiday Club Bookings



We will be running a Big Kids Holiday Club in the summer the club will run from Monday 23rd July till Friday 31st August. Please see Vicki or Aimee for details and places

available. The club is for children who have started school 4 to 5 year olds. Come and join in the fun at Highwood's Big Kids Club

Father's Day



Week During the w/c 11th June we shall be celebrating Fathers Day.

Pre-school children - We would like to invite our Dad's/ Grandad's/carers to come and join in the fun with your child and their friends. If you are able to spare half an hour to an hour in your busy day, please do not hesitate to talk to your child's key person.

Do you like reading a good Story? Sport? Cooking? Gardening? We'd love you to join us.

Highwood Day Nursery Car Park



We ask that all parents and visitors using our car park, park their vehicles with consideration to others.

Please keep your own children safe whilst in the car park by ensuring that they walk holding an adults hand and do not run around or play in the car park or at the side of the nursery or on the front garden.

Please do not park at the side of the nursery as this is staff parking only.

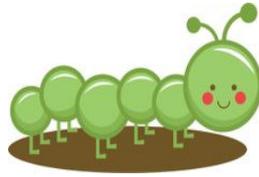
Farwell to our school leavers!



The Highwood Team would like to wish all our children and families who are moving on to school and a new adventure, every success for the future. We will miss them all. If your child is leaving us this summer, could you please let us know their leaving date, this is to ensure all their transition records are ready to pass on to their new setting.

Thank you

Caterpillar room



Firstly we would like to give a big warm welcome to our new children and parents/carers that have joined us over the last couple of months in the Caterpillar room. We will be helping them to settle right in with lots of fun activities, and please remember members of staff are happy to discuss any concerns or requirements you may have.

Over the last and next few months, we have said goodbye to some of our older caterpillars who have moved into the Butterfly room, we will miss them very much and wish them lots of luck but know they will have so much fun!

As we are approaching the warmer spring weather, we suggest bringing some lighter coats/jackets and sun hats for your children to wear when we play outside. The sun can also get quite hot during these next few months, so if you could bring in a sun hat and some sun cream that we can keep at nursery to ensure your child is protected on those sunny days.

We have been busy creating our spring display using a variety of craft materials and mark making which can be seen in the caterpillar room.

We have updated our treasure basket into "spring" for the children to explore enabling them to look at the new season. We will be introducing the caterpillars to the sleeping bunnies song enabling them to move their whole body to sounds they enjoy such as music or to a regular beat. **Literacy 8-20- "interested in books and rhymes and may have favourites"**

We have began getting creative for our new displays on the stairs so keep an eye out for our exciting artwork- we have chosen to display one of our favourite songs "5 little ducks"- we love using the duck teddies to develop an awareness of number. **number names mathematics 8-20**

With the warmer weather approaching we will be making the most of the outdoor activities including the water and paint brushes to create marks in the outdoor area and using different materials to make marks and notice the effects of their movements. **E.A.D-16-26- "Notices and is interested in the effects of making movements which leave marks"**

The older caterpillars will be exploring the grass and wooden area and will be collecting natural resources to explore. We will be putting them in a tuff spot to use our bodies

to experiment with the resources in a range of ways-banging, tapping, scrunching and filling the containers

Understanding the world 8-20-"becomes absorbed ion combining objects e.g banging two objects or placing objects into a container

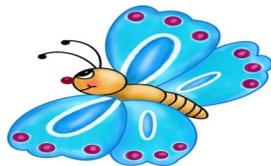
E.A.D-8-20- "Explores and experiments with a range of media through sensory exploration"

Father's day is the 17th June, all of our babies will be making some special gifts and cards in the week leading up to it for their very special Daddies, Grandads and Carers.

We will also be taking photographs of the children to create a picture book for the children to look through and see photos of their peers and themselves

Understanding the world-16-26-"enjoys pictures and stories of themselves and their family"

Butterflies



Firstly we would like to welcome all of the children that have come into the butterfly room. We hope you have lots of fun and enjoy your time with us. Good luck to our butterflies that are now joining the ladybird room.

With some children that are currently potty training can we please ask kindly that you pack spare changes of clothes including pants and socks. Thank-you ☺

As the warmer weather is approaching we would like to ask parents begin putting sunhats and sun cream into their child's bag to enable us to enjoy the outdoor area.

2 Year old progress checks The Early Years Foundation Stage requires that all settings carry out a progress check on all children when they reach 2 years old, this is to be completed for parents to share with their health visitor at the 2 year old health and development review. We are therefore asking all parents to let us know as soon as they receive the date when this will be taking place, this will allow us to complete our progress check on time. Thank you.

To celebrate May Day we are going to be getting creative by sticking long colourful pieces of tissue paper to cardboard tubes and making them sparkle with glitter, these will represent maypoles which we will use when dancing to music. **E.A.D: Exploring media and materials 16-26 months "notices and is interested in the effects of making movements which leave marks "**

We are going to be updating our role play area into a kitchen/ home corner. The children will create art work that will be displayed onto the boards.

We are going to be providing lots of opportunities for the children to take part in food tasting and cooking activities where we can talk about likes and dislikes.

Physical-16-26 - health and self care-develops likes and dislikes in food and drink

The children are going to be talking about their favourite stories so we can update our reading area, we will explore a range of stories, look out for our new reading corner where we will be able to sit in a quiet area and look at stories ourselves. **Literacy : reading 22-36- has some favourite stories, rhymes, songs , poems or jingles.**

In June we will be celebrating father's day at nursery, we will be talking about people we live with and care about, we hope to update our family board with more lovely photographs so please feel free to bring them in. **Understanding the world: people and communities 16-26-enjoys pictures and stories about themselves, their families and other people.**

The children will have the opportunity to explore a range of natural materials outdoors this will encourage the children using describing words when using their senses to touch and feel.

E.A.D- Exploring media and materials: 30-50 months "beginning to be interested in and describe the texture of things"

With the season changing into summer we will be discussing the changes of the new season and changing our free flow area into a beach theme where the children can explore sand and water. To link with this we will learning about sun safety and how to keep cool and safe when playing outdoors in the sun.

The children will have lots of opportunities to take part in summer activities where they will be making tasty treats and getting creative.

Now the weather is much nicer we are going to taking groups of children up to the forest school area to use and explore the mud kitchen and enjoy tea time outdoors with our friends.

Throughout July many children and families will be going on holidays we will be discussing different holidays and transportation.

We would like parents to bring in photographs or send them to us via email info@highwooddaynursery.co.uk so we can add these to our summer display.

Understanding the world: people and communities: 16-26 months " enjoy pictures and stories about themselves , their families and other people, is curious about people and shows interest in stories about themselves and their family."

The current Old Macdonald display is going to be changing into a display board of "Dear zoo" the children enjoy this story and recognise the animals and their sounds. We are going to have a zoo animal themed area where the children can explore and play with the zoo animals and small world objects. We will be getting creative making animal masks and exploring animal messy play.

Understanding the world-the world-22-36- "enjoys playing with the small world models such as the farm, garage or train track."

Ladybird room



A big Warm Welcome to all our new starters who have transitioned from the butterfly room, we hope you have lots of fun continuing your learning journey with us.

We are now enjoying "wake up , shake up " sessions planned by Lily on a Monday morning. We will be using our bodies to perform a range of exercises, and working together as a team to wake our brain up to begin our learning - A great way to start the week !

Physical-30-50-"Experiments with different ways of moving."

On Tuesday Aimee will be planning Forest school - Now the weather is much nicer we are able to enjoy the natural environment, using our listening and attention and creating new resources. E.g Bug Hotels, using twigs to make letters of our names, and enhancing their imagination talking about our forest school fairies Jack and Matilda. We do Advise that on a Tuesday and Friday that you child wears something you don't mind getting dirty - we love to spend time in the mud kitchen getting messy!!! Those rainy days we would recommend bringing waterproofs and welly boots.

Understanding the world-30-50-"Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world.

Can talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects"

On Wednesday Anais will be planning basic French lessons with the children. Recently the children have enjoyed learning to say " Bonjour" and "Merci", they have shown lovely understanding of what these words mean in English also-please keep a look out which word(s) we will be learning each week on the whiteboard just outside the preschool main room door. Communication and language-speaking -40-60-"Extends vocabulary, especially by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sounds of new words."

Fridays the children will be enjoying messy play opportunities outdoors and hoping if it stays dry we can enjoy teatime outside together enjoying a " Alfresco picnic"

On Friday 11th May we are going to be having a special visitor, Amanda who previously worked at Highwood is coming to visit the pre school children to talk about her new job- being a Post woman, this opportunity will enable them to be interested in occupations. Understanding the world -30-50- "Shows interest in different occupations and ways of life"

Saturday May 26th is Polish Mothers day- during the week the children will have the opportunity of drawing a picture of their Mummy/ Grandma or carer as well as having the opportunity to decorate a card to be sent home.

The children will be busy planting their own fruits and vegetables, they will become involved in the growing process showing an interest and understanding what they need to make them grow. Understanding the world-the world 30-50- "Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time."

At the top of our garden the children will be creating their own runner bean teepee, overtime they will be investigating the height using tape measures. The children will be encouraged to use maths language e.g Taller, Shorter. Maths shape space measure 30-50 - "Order two or three items by length or height"

Continuing with planting and growing the children will be making their own cress heads. They will use the cress to make cress sandwiches developing hand eye co-ordination spreading butter onto their bread using a knife. Physical-moving and handling 30-50 "Uses one-handed tools and equipment, e.g. makes snips in paper with child scissors."

We have enjoyed listening to Jack and the beanstalk, our role play area will be changed into the giants castle this will encourage the children to use their imagination to re tell the story themselves. Literacy -reading-30-50-"Listens to stories with increasing

attention and recall. Describes main story settings, events and principal characters"

To celebrate the royal wedding- the children will be invited to dress up as we will be having "kings and Queens" day, we will be decorating our own crowns and exploring royal jewels in the finger gym area. This themed day is linked to the crackerjacks children's charity.

Ladybird children will be inviting their Daddyies , Grandads, carers to join them on Friday 15th June for a light tea at 3.30pm if you able to attend please let a member of the Ladybird team know.

Following the transition to school, we will be proving a school linked display enabling the school leavers to become familiar with school logos, uniform, incorporating themed stories getting them ready for school and their taster days when they will be having to settle in. The role play area will be changed into a school using our imaginations and daily routine.

Understanding the world-people and communities 30-50" Remembers and talks about significant events in their own experience. Recognises and describes special times or events for family or friends. Shows interest in different occupations and ways of life."

2nd -15th July is Wimbledon the children will be developing their hand eye co-ordination using bats and balls, and making strawberry skewers which they can enjoy at snack time with their friends.

We will be talking about holidays, we will be looking at maps, atlas and holiday brochures discovering places that are hot and cold!!

We will be junk modelling using large boxes to create our own junk model transport

Understanding the world- the world-30-50- "Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world"

Graduation ball is on Tuesday 10th July 6.30-7.30 and the theme is "Rainbows". This is for the children who are attending school in September. If your child is leaving us this summer, could you please let us know their leaving date, this is to ensure all their transition records are ready to pass on to their new setting. Thank you

