

Highwood News - November, December & January

Welcome to the winter edition of our newsletter.

We are starting to feel very festive at the nursery, the children are beginning to get excited and we thrive on their enthusiasm. We will be very busy doing lots of Christmas activities preparing the children for "The most wonderful time of the year..."

So as we are fast approach a very busy but exciting time of the year let us start by giving you some very important dates for your diary.....

Important dates for your diary.....



Friday 16th November

We will be dressing up to raise monies for children in need. Please send your child dressed in a spotacular outfit or in a Pudsey T- Shirt. We are asking for a small donation of £2.00 from each child which will be donated to this charity. Thank-You



Fancy Dress Day: - Tuesday 6th November.

We are hoping to make our very popular Chocolate and gift tombola a huge success , so would be very grateful if bring your child dressed in their favourite costume on this day along with a donation of chocolate or gift for the stall.



Christmas Fayre: - 12.30~ 2.30 Saturday 24th November

Please join us for our annual Christmas Fayre. There will be a variety of stalls, Tombola, Bouncy Castle, Refreshments, Face painting, Raffle, Winter Wonderland leading to Santa's Grotto and lots more



Christmas Nativity and Carol Concert: - Monday 10th December.

Christmas is a wonderful time of year, especially when you are surrounded by children. Our nativity is a special event where staff and our pre-school children work together to celebrate the meaning of Christmas.

The children always look forward to learning the words to new songs and practicing their part ready for the day when we invite parents along to share our nativity performance. **Due to health and safety we have to limit the amount of guests to 2 adult per pre-school child, sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.**



Christmas Party Day: - Thursday 13th December

We are expecting a special visitor to the Christmas Party and have been reliably informed that we are booked for an afternoon visit from this very special guest!?!)



Christmas Jumper Day: - Friday 14th December



Christmas Lunch: - Thursday 20th December

Christmas lunch will be served for all the children attending on this day. Our Nursery Cook, Sue will be making roast turkey with all the trimmings.

This year it's all about doing your bit in a Christmas knit and supporting [Macmillan Cancer Support](#), [Save the Children UK](#) and [Make-A-Wish UK](#). So dig out your Christmas jumpers and please donate for these very worthy charities.

Christmas Opening Times:

Friday 14th December
All Nursery Grant Funding Finishes.

Monday 24th December-Christmas Eve
Nursery Closes for Christmas at 4pm

Wednesday 2nd January 2019
Nursery re opens

Monday 7th January 2019
Nursery grant funding recommences for the Spring term.

All the staff would like to wish all the parents and children a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

General information.....

Safeguarding

Safeguarding the children in our care is paramount. All staff members in the nursery have received safeguarding training and are able to deal with any issues that may arise. Safeguarding however is everyone's responsibility and therefore we ask that if you see, hear or know anything which may cause you concern please do not hesitate to mention it to a staff member.

Mobile phones

Please can we ask that mobile phones are not used when in the nursery. This is to safeguard all the children in our care. Staff will ask you to wait outside whilst using your mobile.

We are a mobile phone free site.

Absence

We know you all lead a busy life but could we ask that if you are not going to be bringing your child in to nursery you let us know as soon as possible. This can be done either by phone call or by dropping us an email.

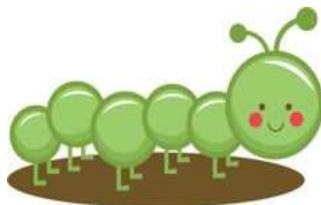
This is to ensure we monitor attendance in accordance to our safeguarding policy.

No smoking

Please note that our nursery and the premises surrounding it -including the car park are a No Smoking Area. This is for the health and safety of all who attend the nursery including children, staff, parents and visitors.

Fee Increase

Just a reminder that as of January our fees are increasing. 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.



Caterpillar Room

The caterpillars have been creative using autumn colours to create our autumn displays. The children have collected leaves outdoors and painted the leaves to print to put onto the display.

The children will be making bright and colourful firework pictures getting creative and a little messy using finger prints to create our fireworks,

The children will also be creating their own poppy pictures for remembrance Sunday.

As the seasons change we will be updating our display boards for winter, so the children will be very creative making lots of pictures to go on the display. We will be busy making Christmas craft to bring home to share with you.

Physical Development: moving and handling: (8-20) Holds pen or crayon using a whole and (palmar) grasp and makes random marks with different strokes.

We will be changing our treasure basket to include lots of lovely Christmas objects for the children to explore.

Understanding the world: the world : (8-20) Anticipates repeated sounds, sights and actions, e.g. when an adult demonstrates an action toy several times.

We will be introducing Christmas songs and rhymes to sing to the children.

Expressive arts and design: (8-20) Move their whole bodies to sounds they enjoy such as music or a regular beat

January

We will be updating our treasure baskets for the children to explore winter objects, the children to explore winter hats and gloves and winter objects

The children will be busy exploring paint and ice cubes with this hands developing use of their senses.



Butterfly Room

November :Colour of the month: Orange

To celebrate bonfire night we are going to be getting creative with fluroscent paint and brightly coloured tissue paper to create artwork representing fireworks.

Expressive Arts and Design: exploring and using media and materials (22-36) " Experiments with blocks, colours and marks"

In relation to bonfire night we will talk about fire safety and about people who help us we will be exploring this using different role play dressing up and props and looking at the people who help us stories. This will give the children a better understanding of special people and jobs that they do.

Expressive arts and design being imaginative (22-36) " Beginning to make believe by pretending"

For remembrance day the children are going to be making paper plate poppies and will take part in one minutes silence.

With Christmas fast approaching we need to get the room ready and full of Christmas cheer. The children are going to be very busy creating decorations for the room and artwork for the winter display. The creative activities will develop physical and fine motor skills as we will be painting, gluing and sticking.

Physical Development moving and handling (22-36) " shows control in holding and using jugs to pour, hammers , books and mark making

December: Colour of the month: Silver/Gold

We are going to be talking about changes in weather and what clothing we might need to wear outside in the cold weather.

Understanding the world: the world(22-36) "notices detailed features of objects in their environment"

Our free flow area will turn into a wintery wonderland and we are going to create a display based on Rudolph the red nosed reindeer along with our winter display so the children are going to be very busy !!

The children are going to be making special gifts for their loved ones to send home nearer to Christmas. We are going to be learning lots of Christmas songs which we hope the children will keep you entertained and sing them for you at home.

Communication and Language: Listening and attention (22-36)" show interest in play with sounds, songs and rhymes"

January: Colour of the Month: White

We will be replacing the Christmas display with one of the children's favourite songs ' Walking through the jungle' we will explore a range of different textures to create our jungle animals , we will look at where they live and the sounds they make through small world play.

Understanding the world:The world (22-36) " enjoys playing with the small world models such as a farm, a garage or a train track"

We will also continue to talk about the weather as it gets colder and the chance of snow rises, we will be creating lots of wintery pictures.

Ladybird Room



This month we will begin to explore and show interest in " Bonfire Night" discussing Guy Fawkes and developing listening and attention using memory skills from those they may have heard at the weekend if you have any photographs of any fireworks you have been to please send them to info@highwooddaynursery.co.uk we would love to see them !!

The children will be listening to Frances the firefly story developing their listening and attention throughout story time enabling them recall and show understanding.

Literacy-reading - Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall.
Describes main story settings, events and principal characters

Diwali " The Festival of Light" - Wednesday 7th November ,We will be celebrating the festival of light by making cards and decorating Rangoli patterns to bring good luck and more, the children will be using the bright fluorescent paints to create firework pictures.

Understanding the world-people and communities-30-50- Shows interest in different occupations and ways of life.

We will be using different construction blocks to create alternate sequences linking this to our new construction display understanding which one comes next?

On Friday 9th November we will be having a red day, creating poppies and having lots of red themed activities related to Remembrance Day.

Understanding the world- comment and ask questions about aspects of their familiar world

Over the following weeks the children will be listening to the story of " the first Christmas" they will be acting this out as part of their nativity play..

The children will be practising their nativity play and Christmas carols. They will performing to parents/ carers on Monday 10th December, please speak to Aimee or Anais who will discuss your child's role, any words they will need to rehearse at home and whether you may need to supply your child with a costume.

Over the festive period the children will be writing their Christmas wish lists demonstrating their hand eye co-ordination and scissor control to cut out developing confidence when choosing what they would like for Christmas. We will be planning a walk into the environment to the local post office to post our letters to Father Christmas at the North Pole. This will be linked to changing our role play area into a post office and Santas work shop encouraging children's imagination and basing it on first hand experiences getting into the festive spirit!

Literacy-sometimes give meaning to marks as they draw/paint.

We will getting involved in Christmas crafts as well as making cards and gifts for our loved ones. We will be developing our hand eye co-ordination designing our own wrapping paper and using this to wrap up boxes using sellotape and different sizes and shapes.

The children will be learning about winter festival of light " Hanukkah" a Jewish festival on Monday 3rd December, the children will be making some brightly coloured pictures with potato printing and making star formations using lollipop sticks

Maths -shape, space, measure- Uses shapes appropriately for tasks.

As the countdown to Christmas begins the children will be recognising their own names in our sock advent calendar Complete with chocolate coins delicious !!!

Maths-show interest in numbers in the environment

In January - New year, new term !!!

We will be introducing children to the new season "Winter". We will be using our observation and problem solving skills to watch and explore the changes to ice when it melts.

The children will be busy working together to sort out clothing suitable for hot and cold weather.

P.S.E.D-Can play in a group extending and elaborating play ideas.

On Friday 25th January -The children will be making cock-a-leekie soup (chicken and vegetable) to celebrate burns night developing knife control to cut up vegetables to make this recipe themselves.

The children will be decorating Scottish flags and colouring in pictures.

Maths -number-Uses some number names accurately in play.

Physical-Uses one-handed tools and equipment, e.g. makes snips in paper with child Scissors.