

Highwood Summer Term News



Dear Parents, Carers and Families, it's hard to believe we are in May already!

Thank you for taking the time to read this Newsletter. We are available to talk to and share your thoughts via telephone 01283 565069 or email us on info@highwooddaynursery.co.uk

Warm Regards

The Highwood Team x

Highwood Day Nursery Summer term newsletter - let's start with some important dates for your diary:



Monday 31st May - Bank Holiday - Nursery is closed

Monday -31st - Friday 4th June - Half term- No funding for Nursery Educational Grant or Think2 Funding

Monday 19th July until the beginning of September -No funding for Nursery Educational Grant

Monday 19th July to Friday 27th August -Summer holiday club

Monday 30th August - Bank Holiday - Nursery is closed

During the summer months we are sure that you that you will be doing lots of exciting activities with your family.....

We would like parents to send photographs of their child so that we can reflect on their summer activities/achievements/milestones from home. Please send them to us via **Blossom Education app**, these will go directly to your child's key worker so we can add these to your child's Learning Journey.

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 **8hour 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.



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.



Holiday Club Bookings

We will be running a Big Kidz Holiday Club throughout the summer. Please see Vicki or Aimee for details and places available. The club is for those children who have started school. Come and join in the fun at Highwood's Big Kidz Club



Happy Fathers Day to all of our Daddy's and Carers. We hope that you have a lovely day ☺



Farwell to our school leavers!

School Placements: If your child is going to school this September, school placements were announced mid April! Please let us know the school your child will be attending.

We are producing a going to school display linked to school readiness in order to help your child transition to their new adventure. This will enable the school leavers to become familiar with school logos and uniform, and by incorporating themed stories getting them ready for school. The role play area will be changed into a school using our imaginations and daily routine.

Graduation ball is Monday 12th July 6.15pm-7.15pm the theme is "Rainbows". This celebration is for the children who are starting school in September.

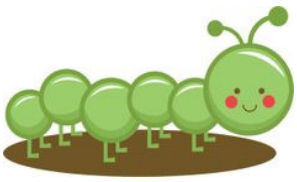
The Highwood Team would like to wish all our children and families who are moving onto school and a new adventure, every success for the future. We are very proud of them all and will miss their smiley faces. If your child is leaving us this summer, could you please let us know their leaving date, this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

Thank you

We didn't realise we were making memories.

We just knew we were having fun





Caterpillars

In May we will be exploring colour- this will be achieved through creative sensory play such as ~

Having fun in small groups with our baby rainbow parachute. Using a variety of coloured objects.

Pretty, painted butterflies created using our fine motor skills holding pegs with cotton wool in a pincer grip or palmer grasp to explore the marks they make with colours.

Coloured sensory bottles filled with a variety of liquids.

Expressive Arts and Design-exploring media and materials-16-26-Notices and is interested in the effects of making movements which leave marks.

We are continuing to create "Five little Speckled Frogs" display for down the stairway. The caterpillars will be getting very messy, engaging in lots of different creative play to do this. Alongside this we will continue to sing the "Five little Speckled Frogs" with the children who love joining in with the actions and sounds. I'm sure you will have lots of fun doing this at home too!

Five Green and Speckled Frogs

Five green and speckled frogs sat on a speckled log
Eating some most delicious bugs -- YUM YUM!
One jumped into the pool where it was nice and cool
Then there were four green and speckled frogs.

Four green and speckled frogs sat on a speckled log
Eating some most delicious bugs -- YUM YUM!
One jumped into the pool where it was nice and cool
Then there were three green and speckled frogs.

Three green and speckled frogs sat on a speckled log
Eating some most delicious bugs -- YUM YUM!
One jumped into the pool where it was nice and cool
Then there were two green and speckled frogs.

Two green and speckled frogs sat on a speckled log
Eating some most delicious bugs -- YUM YUM!
One jumped into the pool where it was nice and cool
Then there was one green and speckled frogs.

One green and speckled frogs sat on a speckled log
Eating some most delicious bugs -- YUM YUM!
One jumped into the pool
where it was nice and cool
Then there were
no green and speckled frogs.



For all you special Daddies/Carers out there we will be creating you something special for June 16th Father's Day and 23rd June -Polish Father's Day ...but the rest is a secret!

The caterpillar children will be exploring music & movement and doing our very own "Music Time". The babies will engage in stomping, tapping, clapping, waving the parachute and instrument playing whilst having a fun filled experience.

We will be making our own musical instruments to create sounds using natural materials this will include a stick rain maker and tin drums and shakers using pasta, lentils and rice.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: 16-26 Making relationships Plays alongside others.

As always, we are also very grateful of any family photos you may wish to share with us to use on our 'Family Tree' display. The children love to look at photos and familiar faces, helping to develop their 'Understanding of the world - People & Communities'. Again, these can be bought in or sent via the Blossom App

Understanding the world -16-26-people and communities- Is curious about people and shows interest in stories about themselves and their family.

Over the sunny summer months, we hope to spend a lot more time outside with the Caterpillars so we ask that you please provide your child with appropriate clothing, sunhat, shoes and sun cream. Please can you ensure these are labelled to minimise any mix ups. The children will be able to explore lots of water and sand play outdoors to enjoy a beach theme. We will also be creating a lovely seaside display in the caterpillar room to show you all how much fun we have had!

We will be creating a lovely new "Under the Sea" themed treasure basket with colourful material, sea creatures and sensory bottles. The babies will be using their hand eye co-ordination to print rainbow fish with celery, and collage paper plate turtles using different materials.

Following this theme, the caterpillars will be able to experience water play using their hand eye co-ordination to catch bright coloured fish with spoons. The sand tray and shells will create opportunities to create marks.

Physical Development: 8-20 Moving and Handling -Enjoys the sensory experience of making marks in damp sand, paste or paint.



Butterflies

The children have been learning about the changing season by investigating the outdoor environment looking at the changing trees and plants and observing the weather.

We then created a lovely display linked to the Spring Season by creating fluffy rabbits and chicks out of paper plates, hand printed daffodils and tulips and free painted umbrellas for our very traditional April showers!!!!

In the month of May we will be planting sunflower seeds and learning how to care for plants whilst we will watch and measure how much they grow. We will also send home a pot with your child's sunflower in so that they can water and care for it at home. We would love you to send in pictures of your child with their fully grown sunflower. These can be sent over via the Blossom App.

Understanding the world-the world-30-50- Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time.

To celebrate International Nurses Day, we are going to be exploring the Doctors role play tools with the dolls, encouraging the children to play alongside each other making the dolls better and learning how the equipment can be used.

EAD: Being imaginative (22-36) "beginning to make believe by pretending"

We are going to be updating our construction display, the children will take part in printing activities using the different types of construction. We will be asking encouraging them to use language naming structures.

EAD: Being imaginative (22-36) Beginning to use representation to communicate.

To celebrate "World Ocean Day" we are going to explore sea creatures during sensory messy play. This will involve naming the creatures, counting them and developing their understanding the world through discussing where they live and how we can help look after them.

Understanding the world: The world 30-50 - Shows care and concern for living things and the environment

In June it is Father's Day so the children will be making something special. We will link this in to talking about our families and who takes care of us. We would be very grateful if parents can send in family photo's so that we can update our family board. You can send them via the Blossom App

Understanding the World People and Communities (22-36) "Has a sense of own and immediate family and friends"

We will be practicing our cutting skills which is a great way for those little hand muscles to get good exercise and develop motor skills. To make this fun we will be introducing a cutting tray where the children can use child-safe scissors to cut and freely explore all kinds of natural elements. We will be taking the children in the garden on a summer nature walk before hand and collect grass, leaves, flowers and whatever catches their fancy!

Physical Development 30-50 Uses one-handed tools and equipment, e.g. makes snips in paper with child scissors

We will be updating our story/rhyme display board with an "Old Macdonald display" as this is one of the children's favourite rhymes. This will be linked to learning all about farmyards and animals. The children will be getting creative using a variety of media to make farm animals and enjoying small world play with animals and resources such as shredded wheat for hay bales and real straw for the pigsty, compost and grass for the other farm animals.



DOWN ON THE FARM
gross motor
movement game



The children will have lots of enjoyment taking part in a fun game using our gross motor skill to move like things you can find on the farm.

We use games like this for small group time, or to transition between activities. The children benefit from getting their wiggles out, so that they are able to focus during the times when sitting and listening is important.

Can you waddle like a duck? - Perhaps you can play this at home and have fun!!!

If your child is lucky enough to visit our local National Forest Adventure Farm or any other farm we love to add photos onto our display, these also can be sent via the Blossom App

Literacy: Reading 22-36 - Has some favourite stories, rhymes, songs, poems or jingles. Repeats words or phrases from familiar stories. Fills in the missing word or phrase in a known rhyme, story or game, e.g. 'Humpty Dumpty sat on a

Communication and Language: Listening and attention 22-36 - Listens with interest to the noises adults make when they read stories.

In July/August we are hoping for sunny weather so we can talk about the Summer season and linking this to holidays/travel, the clothes that we wear and safety in the sun.

Our Summer board will display our crafts and art work reflecting what we have learnt and embedding our understanding of the summer season.

If you are off on your holidays please send us a postcard and holiday snaps for our new Summer Display board.



Ladybirds

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 will be growing sunflowers with the children to enable them to take care and observe happenings as they change and begin to grow. We will practice measuring how tall our sunflowers are using tape measures and rulers, comparing heights as well as using this as an extension who is the tallest in preschool and who is the shortest?

Our role play area will be the garden centre, looking at textures and labelling what they see, using visual aids to match together. We will be discussing processes, growth and time.

Understanding the world-the world-30-50- Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time.

Wednesday May 26th is Polish Mother's Day- during the week the children will have the opportunity to draw a picture of their Mummy/ Grandma or carer as well as having the opportunity to decorate a card to be sent home.

On 12th June it is Queen Elizabeth's birthday, we will be making crowns, Union Jack flags, and cucumber sandwiches yummy!!developing our knife control and following instructions.

As part of children's interests and conversations with some of our lovely parents we will be talking about planets, we will be making our own papier mache planets as well as implementing fun intergalactic activities with our preschool children. We will be looking at the story "Alien tea on planet zum zee ", using shapes to construct our own rockets and creating our own little men in flying saucers to support singing time together in a group. The children will be able to look at visual aids and the planet names will be translated in polish to extend their learning.

Literacy -reading-30-50- "Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall. Describes main story settings, events and principal characters"

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.'

June 16th Father's Day and 23rd June -Polish Father's Day Ladybird children will be talking about those significant in their lives.

In preparation for school there will be a range of activities in the hope of getting the children familiar with the next phase of their learning journey: We will be providing a school linked display enabling the school leavers to become familiar with their school logos and uniform; incorporating themed stories getting them ready for school and school taster days where the children will have the opportunity to become familiar with their new surroundings.

The role play area will also 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."

28th June-11th 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 Monday 12th July 6.15pm-7.15pm the theme is "Rainbows". This celebration is for the children who are starting 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. For a breakdown what the children have planned for the week ahead don't forget to look at our whiteboard which is based in the Ladybird front window

The children have been engaging in yoga outdoors exercising and stretching their bodies please see below some exercises you can practice at home

Physical development-moving and handling-40-60-Experiments with different ways of moving.

GARDEN YOGA FOR KIDS



Pretend to be a tree

Tree Pose: Stand on one leg. Bend the other knee and place the sole of your foot on your inner thigh. Sway like a tree in the breeze. Now the other side.



Pretend to be a frog

Squat Pose: Come down to a squat with your knees apart and arms resting between your knees. Touch your hands to the ground. Jump like a frog.



Pretend to be a seed

Child's Pose: Sit back on your heels and bring your forehead down to rest on the floor. Pretend to be a seed in the garden.



Pretend to be a butterfly

Cobbler's Pose: Sit on your buttocks with a tall spine. Bend your legs with the soles of your feet together. Flap your legs like the wings of a butterfly.



Pretend to be a flower

Flower Pose: Lift your bent legs, balancing on your sitting bones. Weave your arms under your legs, palms up. Pretend to be a flower in bloom.



printable yoga poster

Summer fun at Highwood

Over the summer holidays we will be having lots of fun during our themed weeks.



Craft week-w/c 19th July

We will be having lots of fun using our imagination to create junk modelling, using textured paint to create our own pictures and developing our gross motor and hand eye co-ordination using colourful strips of paper to weave



Superhero week-w/c 26th July

Calling all superheroes.... the children will have the opportunity to design their own superhero/ cape, create masks and join in with superhero exercises outdoors. On Friday 2nd August the children are welcome to come in their superhero costumes and show us their special powers.



Pirate and princess week -w/c 2nd August

'Once upon a time' and 'a yo ho ho' ... the children will be searching for treasure this week. They will be making some delicious pirate pizza, creating some beautiful jewellery and drawing treasure maps.



Sports week-w/c 9th August

The children will have lots of opportunities to be outdoors this week when competing in races and fun physical activities. The children will have the opportunity to take part in the following events: Egg and spoon race, Running race, Bean bag race, Wellington boot throwing. The children will also be developing their ball skills by taking part in several ball activities e.g. football, basketball.



Beach Week -w/c 16th August

We are hoping the weather stays nice for us to imagine we are at the seaside by having fun so that they can really enjoy splashing in the water and building sandcastles. We will be making a delicious fruit cocktail where we can develop our knife control to cut the fruits and take home. We are hoping the weather stays nice for us to imagine we are at the seaside by having fun in the paddling pool and sand pit. You are more than welcome to put your child's swimming costume and towel in their bag so that they can really enjoy splashing in the water and building sandcastles. We will be making some delicious ice lollies which will help to cool us down.



Baking week- w/c 23rd August

The children will be making some tasty treats every day and bringing them home to share with you. They will be learning about healthy eating when creating tasty fruit kebabs. They will be carefully weighing out ingredients to bake cakes and develop their skills to roll and cut out biscuits. They will explore the process of baking bread which we will use to make sandwiches, filled with their own choice of fillings.... yummy!!