



Newsletter
Autumn Term 1st Half
September-October 2021

Welcome! It's been lovely to see familiar faces and to meet our new families over this last week. Welcome to Pre-School one and all. We hope you all had a great summer and are looking forward to a fun-filled half term at Pre-School.

Curriculum: Our theme this half term is "This is My Life". Our weekly focus topics are:

w/c 6th Sept: What I did on my hols
w/c 13th Sept: Many ways to say 'hello'
w/c 20th Sept: My family
w/c 27th Sept: My favourite toys and games
w/c 4th Oct: Around the world: places
w/c 11th Oct: Around the world: pets and animals
w/c 18th Oct: Harvest/Autumn

We also hope to have something of an international flavour within our weekly topics. For **'My Family'**, we would love to display pictures of your child with yourselves and/or their wider family, including any family abroad. Please would you send in pictures in children's book bags from **Monday 20th Sept**. We will try to keep the pictures safe and in good order but please do not send in originals of treasured prints.

Facebook Group: Please join the Pre-School's parent group on Facebook. This is a closed group – only group members can access and post on the group. Follow this link ([3](#)) [Handsworth Pre-School Parents Page | Facebook](#), 'like' the page and answer the questions. The FB group is a really good way to keep in touch. We try to post regularly about our activities. You will also find posts with links to relevant provision from the Local Authority or other organisations. We also post reminders and sometimes ask questions for quick feedback.

Change bags and Clothing: Please remember **to name** your child's change bag and clothing (coats etc). We do not always know which child has which item of clothing and the children do not always recognise their own clothing. Putting your child's name in their coat etc helps prevent mishaps and mistaken identities.

Registration Forms and Returners Forms: if you have not already completed and returned your child's settling in form (new starters) or data protection/privacy form (returners), please do so as promptly as possible. If you need further copies of these forms, please let staff know.

COVID-19: An updated version of the Management Plan, Information for Parents is available on our website and on Facebook. This update reflects the changes to national arrangements in August. This document is kept under review and we will let you know when it is next amended.

Tapestry: staff have now started using Tapestry, an online learning journal, to record your child's progress and development at Pre-School. Staff are getting to know the program and we will be in touch later this half term about the next steps for parental access. In the meantime, you can find out about the program by following this link: [Online Learning Journal For Early Years Education | Tapestry](#). If you have any questions about your child's learning at any point, please have a word with your key person. If you have any questions about Tapestry and its roll-out, please have a word with Janet or Louise.

Committee Membership: the Pre-School is run by a Parent Committee and your support is always welcome. The Committee are running a **coffee morning on Monday 20th September**, at the end of the session. Donations of cakes welcome on the day. This is a great time to get to know other families and to chat to Committee members about what the Committee does, how it supports the Pre-School and how you can get involved. Funds raised at the coffee morning will go towards our Christmas activities.

Thank you so much to everyone who sent on best wishes to staff at the end of last academic year/beginning of this. We know the COVID closure at the end of term was disruptive and disappointing but we have been touched by the thanks and messages families sent on.

Diary Dates:

20th September: Coffee Morning

22nd October: End of Half Term

2nd November: Children return, 9.00am (please note: this is a Tuesday. Pre-School is closed for INSET on the Monday morning.)

Getting in Touch:

Setting hours: 07860 655066 (direct to the hall)

Out of setting hours: 07932 154133

Email: info@handsworthpreschool.co.uk (general enquiries)

Or – handsworthpsleader@outlook.com (Janet, Pre-School Leader)

Please do have a word if you have any questions or comments,

Janet Cushing, Pre-School Leader