



Mid-Term Update: Diary Dates and New Faces

Staff Team: we have welcomed Amarilda Cela and Virginia Njay to the staff team. Amarilda and Virginia have taken on various roles within the Pre-School.

Get to Know Animals: Get to Know Animals will be visiting Pre-School on **Thursday 21st October**. This visit has been rescheduled from July. If your child started at Pre-School this September, you will receive a letter about the visit and asking you to tell us whether or not your child can touch the animals.

If your child has returned to Pre-School this academic year we will carry forward the permissions you gave in the summer. Please let us know if you wish to change your permissions or would like to check any of the details on the form.

You can find out more about Get to Know Animals, here: <https://gtk.co.uk>.

All children are welcome to come into Pre-School on this date, whether or not they usually attend on a Thursday.

Tapestry Online Journal: you all will be receiving a letter about the next steps in rolling out parent access to their child's journal on Tapestry. All families will receive a letter by email before the end of this half term followed by activation links early next half term. Please keep an eye out in your junk/spam folders and/or have a word if you do not receive further information about Tapestry from us. You can find out more about Tapestry here: [Online Learning Journal For Early Years Education | Tapestry](#).

Parent Consultations: we plan to hold face-to-face parent consultations on **Friday 19th November**. Parent consultations are an opportunity to chat with your child's key person about how your child is settling into (or back into) Pre-School and the progress they are making. You will have been able to see your child's journal on Tapestry before the meeting. Staff also complete a Learning Development check for each child, which will be available on Tapestry before the meetings. Meetings will be held in the hall, subject to any changes in COVID guidance, and *there is no usual session that day*. We will send more information about the consultations a bit nearer the time, including details about how to book your slot.

Annual General Meeting (AGM): the Pre-School's Annual General Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 20th October, 8pm, over Zoom**. The AGM reflects on the previous year for the Pre-School and is a good opportunity for you to find out about what the Committee does and how you can help. Details of the Zoom meeting ID and passcode will be published on Facebook in advance.

Returning Parents Stay and Play: parents of children returning to Pre-School in September are welcome to come and stay and play on **Friday 22nd October**. We'd love to see you! Details about further stay and plays will be published next half term.

Returning Children – data forms: if you have not already done so, please complete the revised data permissions form for your child. Further copies of the form will be in your child's book bag unless you have already sent the form back (thank you). This is particularly important for returning children as it affects the pictures/media we can upload onto your child's Tapestry page (amongst other things).

Facebook Group: We publish news, updates and information on our closed Facebook group. If you are not already a member, please join us. Follow this link [\(3\) Handsworth Pre-School Parents Page | Facebook](#), 'like' the page, request to join the group and answer the questions. Please note: we do not approve requests if the joining questions are not answered.

Half-Term Activities: We like to help you keep busy over the holidays! In the last week of this half term, we will send out a Virtual Pre-School Bulletin and we may also send home some Autumn-themed challenges! We find the children enjoy having something to bring back to Pre-School after the break. More details nearer the time – keep an eye on Facebook and email.

Getting in Touch:

Setting hours: **07860 655066** (direct to the hall)
Please call, text or message us on this number first – the messages get through to staff directly.

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