



Handsworth Pre-School
Newsletter – Autumn Term 2nd
Half

Welcome back: We hope you had a good half term. A warm welcome, too, to new families who are starting with us this half term.

Curriculum: thanks to everyone who contributed a family photo (we will be returning them shortly), and/or helped their child with the Autumn bags last half term. The children really enjoyed looking at their pictures and those of their friends; and sharing their Autumn treasures.

In the first week back, this half term, we have thought about light and dark.

w/c 4 Nov: night-time

w/c 11th Nov: red. We do not officially mark Armistice Day, but if children wish to come in wearing something red or a poppy on Monday 11th November, that would be welcome. If your child does wear a poppy, please make sure it is secured safely.

w/c 18th Nov: national road safety week.

w/c 25th Nov: hot and cold

For the remaining three weeks of term, we will be doing Christmas themed activities.

Thank you to the Committee and parents who organised and supported our end of half term coffee morning. The event raised about £47 which will go towards Christmas celebrations.

Committee: We held our AGM on 9th October and are grateful to everyone who attended. Jonny Cooper is our Chair, Lucy Johnson, Treasurer and Buzzy Kent, Vice Chair. We remain very grateful to parents who volunteer for named roles, to those who join the committee and to everyone who helps out and supports events during the year. The next Committee meeting is Weds 13th Nov, 8pm. Everyone welcome.

Staff changes: We said a sad farewell to Vicky Calle at the end of half term. Mundele Dombombi Pedro has taken up the role as Pre-School Assistant.

Mobile Phones: We continually monitor our safeguarding procedures at Pre-School. As a result of recent staff discussions, parents are asked to put

away their mobile phones (or other devices) when they enter the premises at the main front door. Staff opening the door in the morning and at home time will ask you to put away your phone if you are using it at the time. If you need to make or receive an urgent call whilst dropping off/picking up your child, please let staff know and they will direct you to a quiet room.

Child Absences: just a reminder to call (or text) the Pre-School hall telephone (07860 655066) to let us know if your child will be absent that day. Whilst Ruth regularly checks our general enquiries mobile she is not in the setting every day and messages can be delayed as a result.

Christmas Dates: we invite parents, carers and family members to join us for our **Nativity Play** on **Friday 13th December, 10.45am for 11.00 (ish) start.**

Christmas Party and last day of term: **Friday 20th December.** The Pre-School will close at **11.30am** on the last day. More info on the Nativity and Party will be circulated nearer the time, and please also keep an eye on the website.

Other Diary Dates: Parent consultation meetings: **Friday 29th November.** You will shortly receive a letter about the consultation meetings. A sign-up sheet for times will be on the door nearer the time. **Stay and Play: Monday 16th – Thursday 19th December. Pre-School returns, Wednesday 8th January, 9am.** Any updates or changes to diary dates will be on our website.

Outdoor play: A reminder that we do have an open door policy and allow children to play outside in (almost) all weathers. Please make sure your child has suitable outdoor clothing. Please make sure coats etc are clearly named.

If you have any questions or comments, please have a word with Janet (Pre-School Leader) or Louise (Deputy). Staff are available for a quick word on the door (and a different member of staff opens the main door each day). If you have a query or question that may need a longer or more confidential discussion, staff may suggest a meeting, or you can ask for one.

Janet