



Newsletter
Spring Term 1st Half
January – February 2023

Welcome back and a very Happy New Year to you all. Thank you so much for all the kind gifts and wishes at the end of last term.

This half term we are going to be exploring our feelings and emotions, as well as celebrating some festivals and events. Our weekly thinking topics include:

- w/c 4th Jan: Happy New Year!
- w/c 9th Jan: Knowing our feelings and emotions
- w/c 16th Jan: Expressing our feelings and emotions
- w/c 23th Jan: Celebrating Lunar New Year (Rabbit)
- w/c 30th Jan: Familiar stories (National Storytelling Week)
- w/c 6th Feb: Love

Please keep an eye out on Facebook for updates on what we're doing each week and activities as they unfold.

Children Starting Reception in September 2023:

Applications for school places from September **must** be made by midnight, **15th January**. Applications are made online, through the Local Authority. The link is here: [Applying for a primary school place | Waltham Forest Council](#). If you have any questions about school applications, please have a word.

Shout Outs for, in particular:

- Bottle or jam jar lids (for loose parts play)
- Smaller cardboard packaging (cereal box size or smaller) for junk modelling; and shapes and construction play. (We have plenty of plastic drinks bottles at the moment so do not need any more at this stage, thank you).

If you have any of these items going spare at home, please bring them in.

Committee News - Fundraising: thank you so much for your incredible contributions to the Christmas raffle and coffee mornings. We raised a fantastic £213. Some of the money was spent on the Christmas treats for the children; and remainder amounts will be spent on resources this term.

Next Meeting Committee Meeting: Wednesday 8th February, 8pm, Zoom.

Extended Hours: thank you to everyone who replied to the end-of-term Questionnaire and commented on the questions on extended hours at Pre-School. Your

replies were welcome and helpful. We are keen to engage as many parents as we can in considering whether and how to extend the Pre-School's hours from September 2023.

The options we are considering look at offering a lunch club with extended hours to 2pm. There would be an option to pick up your child before lunch, after lunch or at the end of the session (detailed timings and arrangements are still being worked out).

Children who are funded for 15 hours would pay an additional fee for lunch club/afternoon sessions, if they wanted to attend. Children funded for 30 hours would receive the additional hours within that overall allocation. Children who are fee paying would pay to attend the additional hours.

We are particularly keen to hear from parents whose child could remain at Pre-School in September as to whether such extended hours may make a difference. We will therefore be holding some further consultation with families over this half term and will keep you in touch with arrangements. If you do have any thoughts or comments to add at this stage, please have a word with Janet.

Diary Dates:

Committee Meeting: Wednesday 8th February, 8 pm via Zoom

Last Day of Half Term: Friday 10th February, 12 noon.

Second Half Term starts: Monday 20th Feb, 9.00 am

Clothing: Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Children are able to play outdoors every session. **Please name your child's coat and, if possible, hats, scarves etc.**

Keeping in Touch:

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

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

Telephone: 07860 655066

Janet Cushing, Pre-School Leader



The Colour Monster, a book about feelings, by Anna Llenas