

Newsletter Autumn Term 1st Half September-October 2022



Welcome! It's been lovely to see familiar faces and to meet our new families. 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 "My favourite..." We will also be celebrating Harvest and Rosh Hashanah. We'll explore our diverse community and mark European Day of Languages (26th Sept). We will be celebrating Black History Month (October) by exploring some favourite, traditional African animal stories.

w/c 5th Sept: My favourite toys and things to do

w/c 12th Sept: My favourite toys and things to do

w/c 19th Sept: My favourite food

w/c 26th Sept: Many Ways to Say Hello

w/c 3rd Oct: Traditional African Animal Stories

w/c 10th Oct: Traditional African Animal Stories

w/c 17th Oct: Autumn/Harvest

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](#)), and answer the membership questions. We use the FB group regularly and post information about the Pre-School, reminders, events and information about services from the Local Authority etc. Joining the group really does help keep you in touch with the Pre-School community and activities.

Label! Label! Label! Please label *everything* with your child's name. We do not always know which child has which item of clothing, children sometimes have the same coats etc from local shops and the children do not always recognise their own clothing. Putting your child's name in their coat, clothing, change bag etc helps prevent mishaps and mistaken identities.

Tapestry Updates and Changes

Children starting at Pre-School: adults named with parental responsibility on your child's Registration Form will receive an activation email from Tapestry shortly after your child starts at Pre-School. Please keep an eye out for these emails and check 'junk' or 'spam' if they do not arrive. We will let you know via FB when to expect the emails. If you want to find out more about Tapestry, you can do so here: [Online Learning Journal For Early Years Education | Tapestry](#).

All Children: staff will now be using Tapestry to record **accidents** at Pre-School. You will still receive a text from us if your child has an accident at Pre-School. The record of the accident will now be made on Tapestry rather than in our accident book. When the accident record is uploaded to your child's file, there will be a notification on your account. You can also click on the 'accidents' tab at the top of your child's page.

Parent observations: we have now activated 'parent observations' to allow you to add to your child's journal. You can add comments, videos, photos etc and we encourage you to use this to let us know what you've been up to over holidays, at the weekend or any other event. There is a "+ observation" tab at the top of the front page on your child's account.

Any questions about Tapestry, please have a word with Janet (Pre-School Leader) or Louise (Deputy).

Committee Membership: the Pre-School is run by a Parent Committee and your support is always welcome. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held this term and we will be looking for volunteers for a number of roles. You can also volunteer to help out more generally. The Committee are also responsible for organising social events such as coffee mornings, the spring fete etc. Keep an eye out on FB and email for more information and details.

Contacting Us: Please **phone or text the setting on 07860 655066** if you need to let us know about your child's absence etc. Please do not call the general enquiries number as it can take longer for messages to be passed on.

Thank you so much to everyone who sent best wishes to staff at the end of last academic year and for all the generous gifts. Your kind words really make a difference to us.

Diary Dates:

Friday 21st October: End of this Half Term

Tuesday 1st November: Children return, 9.00am (Pre-School is closed for INSET on the Monday morning.)

Friday 11th November: Stay and Play, from 9.30am

Friday 2nd December: Parent Consultations

Getting in Touch:

Pre-School Setting: 07860 655066

General Enquiries: 07932 154133

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

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

Janet Cushing, Pre-School Leader