



**Newsletter**  
**Autumn Term 2<sup>nd</sup> Half**  
**November – December 2022**

Welcome back! We hope you had a great half term break. Thank you to everyone who uploaded comments and observations to Tapestry.

Our curriculum this half term is inspired by the children's interests and festivals. Our weekly focus topics include:

w/c 1st Nov: Seasonal celebrations

w/c 7<sup>th</sup> Nov: Spells and potions

w/c 14<sup>th</sup> Nov: Nursery stories

w/c 21<sup>st</sup> Nov: Sporty Superheroes

w/c 28<sup>th</sup> Nov: TBC (subject to children's interests)

w/c 5<sup>th</sup> Dec: Christmas

w/c 12<sup>th</sup> Dec: Christmas

**Stay and Play:** please join us for our open stay and play session on **November 11<sup>th</sup>**. If your child usually comes in on a Friday, please bring them in for 9.00am as usual. Grown ups are then welcome to join us from 10.00am.

If your child doesn't normally attend on a Friday, you are welcome to come in with them for the stay and play at 10.00am.

One adult per child, please – grandparents, aunts, uncles etc are welcome. If you (or a family member) are planning to come in for the stay and play, please email [info@handsworthpreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@handsworthpreschool.co.uk) by 12 noon Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November so we know numbers.

All attendees are then welcome to head over to the Committee coffee morning at 11.30am. (See below.)

**Shout Outs:** if you have any clean, empty **plastic drinks bottles** with screw tops, please drop them in over the next few days. We plan to use them in activities.

If you have any old, clean **tea towels** or (hand or small bath) **towels** please pass them on to us. We use tea towels in the kitchen and towels outside to wipe down equipment. Strangely we seem to have lost quite a few of our supplies...

**Learning Development Checks and Parent Consultations:** we prepare Learning Development Checks for all the children at this time of year. The reports will be available on Tapestry w/c **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November**. The Learning Development Checks give you an overview of how your child has settled at Pre-School and their development over the first half term.

We are hosting **Parent Consultations** in the hall on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**. These meetings give you a chance to chat to your child's key worker about your child's progress and the Learning Development Check. If you would like to book to see your child's key worker, please email [info@handsworthpreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@handsworthpreschool.co.uk). We offer 15 minute slots from 9.30am. Places are offered generally on a first come, first served basis, but if you have a particular time pressure please let us know in the email. We will do our best to accommodate you but may be limited in the slots we can offer.

Please note that there is no 'normal' session in the hall on that date.

**Staff Vacancies:** we continue to carry staff vacancies. If you know someone who might be interested joining our fabulous team, please pass on the information. Details are on the website: [Handsworth Pre-School \(handsworthpreschool.co.uk\)](http://Handsworth Pre-School (handsworthpreschool.co.uk))

**Children Starting Reception in September 2023:** If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2019 you must apply for a school place to start next September. Applications are made online, through the Local Authority. The link is here: [Applying for a primary school place | Waltham Forest Council](#). The closing date for applications is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2023**. If you have any questions about school applications, please have a word. Your key person will also ask you about school applications during the parent consultations.

**Committee News - WhatsApp:** the Committee have a parents WhatsApp group. Info about how to join is being shared on Facebook, email and book bags. If you haven't received a note about the group by one of the methods, please have a word with Janet or Louise.

**Committee Officers and Vacancies:** thanks to all who attended the AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> October. Named Committee members are: Chair – Jonny Cooper; Treasurer – Lykke Thule Hansen; Vice Chair – Siobhan Knifton-Harrison/Vacancy; Secretary - Vacancy.

The Secretary role is vacant and we are looking for a volunteer to take on the role. There is also a vacancy for an additional Vice Chair. Further information will be circulated shortly, but if you are interested, please have a word with Janet.

**Next Committee Meeting: Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 8pm, Zoom.** Meeting details will be circulated nearer the time.

**Coffee Morning:** the Committee are hosting a coffee morning on 11<sup>th</sup> November from 11.30am in the upper hall Lounge. Cake donations welcome on the day.

**Clothing:** please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for Pre-School. We allow outdoor play in all weathers, so it's important your child has the necessary clothing including footwear. Please **name** your child's coat and encourage them to recognise their own hats, scarves, gloves etc.

**Diary Dates, Stay and Plays, Christmas:**

**Stay and Plays: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November.**

**Christmas: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas concert

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas party.

More information about our Christmas activities will follow.

**Last Day of Term:** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 12 noon.

**Spring Term starts:** Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January, 9.00am

**Keeping in Touch:**

Email: [info@handsworthpreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@handsworthpreschool.co.uk) (general enquiries) - or – [handsworthpsleader@outlook.com](mailto:handsworthpsleader@outlook.com) (Janet, Pre-School Leader)

***Janet Cushing, Pre-School Leader***