



NICHOLAS HAWKSMOOR  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

*An Academy of Academic, Artistic, Athletic and Excellence*

Autumn Term

# Nursery Newsletter

## What can be done at home to help my child?

- Discuss your child's school day and their feelings towards it.
- Encourage writing and mark making, using a correct pencil grip.
- Spot letters, numbers and shapes in the environment.
- Share stories together, discussing the beginning, middle and end.
- Count together and order numbers.
- Discuss your child's learning wishes and place these on a balloon on our house.

### Contact:

- If your child has a bump to the head at school you will receive text message to let you know and the child will be monitored. If there is any further concern about the bump we will contact you and ask you to collect your child.

Dear Parents

Welcome to Nursery! We have enjoyed meeting you this week and are looking forward to the children coming to visit us next week.

During the Early Years Foundation Stage we like to plan our activities around the interests of your children to make it a personal and enjoyable learning experience for them. Each week we will be working on a different theme, which will be derived through our observations of the children and through your comments on our balloon display. Our weekly activities and adult guided learning will be linked to this theme and will be shared with you on a weekly basis. Please join our Facebook page 'Nicholas Hawksmoor Nursery' through which we will keep you updates of upcoming events and learning themes.

## Subject Overviews

### Personal Social and Emotional Development

We are looking forward to the children starting nursery. We understand that this may be a really exciting time some but for others (including some parents) it may be a difficult one! We will do all that we can to make this a positive experience so that in time we will see them beginning to increase their confidence when speaking to adults about their needs, wants and opinions and building new friendships.

Each day the children will be reminded of the appropriate classroom behaviour and we will especially be focusing on the need to share. Shortly we will be introducing our classroom behaviour chart which comprises of a happy sun, a thinking rainbow and a calming cloud. This is used as a visual aid to discuss expected behaviour. We will also all be 'reaching for the stars' If the children have a significant achievement, their name will be placed on the superstar board.

Please be assured that all of our staff are happy to speak to you at anytime if you have any worries or concerns.

### Communication and Language

As the children begin to work on the full timetable we will be developing their concentration skills and working for them to maintain attention during carpet and group learning times. We will be having daily class 'talk time' where the children can discuss and listen to the ideas of others, whilst enjoying a snack together.

### Physical Development

PE sessions will be introduced when we feel the children are fully settled and ready. During these times we will be exploring our bodies and the different ways of moving. Our focus for this term will be on balancing and co-ordination. The children will be exploring balancing on one leg, hopping, side stepping and galloping.

The children will be encouraged to write on a daily basis in a range of ways. We will be working with them to begin to write their names and to hold a pencil correctly. In order to encourage their writing skills, there will also be a lot of activities to encourage the use of their fine motor skills such as threading, using tweezers, buttons and playdough.

## Events

### Parents' Meetings

**W/C 1st October**— Our aim is to hold a two-way conversation, in which we will share and gather information. This will secure a full picture of each child's learning and development needs. Parent appointments will last approximately 15– 20 minutes and will run throughout the school day.

### Diary Dates

**16th October**—Harvest Activity Day (parents welcome) times to be confirmed

**2nd November**— FONHS Bonfire Night

**13<sup>th</sup> December AM**-  
Foundation Christmas Production

**18th December**—  
Christmas Activity Day (parents welcome) times to be confirmed

### Parent Helpers

Parent helpers will be up and running after October half term, we will let you know when the list is up on the parent board. If you would like to add your name as a regular helper, gardening or share with us your special skill, interest or job please let us know.

## Subject Overviews

### Literacy

Phonics sessions will be an important part of our weekly timetable. These sessions will be introduced after October half term. The children will be introduced to letter sounds in a fun and playful way. They will be encouraged to become aware of the sounds around them and to develop their listening skills.

The children will be encouraged to read and enjoy books together. Class stories will happen on a daily basis where the children will listen and discuss books. Please ensure your child has a reading book in their book bag and encourage them to change this regularly. These can be chosen from the book cases in the Nursery.

We will also be introducing family reading sessions into our timetable after half term. This provides an opportunity for you to come into Nursery and read with your child.

### Maths

The children will learn and practise basic number skills; counting, ordering, recognising and representing numerals to 10 and beyond. We will encourage the children to explore numbers in all areas of the environment.

### Understanding the World

The children will be experiencing and taking part in a variety of celebrations this term. These include Bonfire Night, Diwali, Harvest and Christmas. We will be talking about cultures and traditions along with discussing the similarities and differences between ourselves and others.

The children will be given access to both the and the interactive whiteboard to complete a range of activities.

### Expressive Art and Design

Our role play area will change on a weekly basis following our themes and the children will be given the opportunity to assist with this. In this area the children will be given the opportunity to take on a variety of roles and act out narratives with their friends.

We will be creating individual and collaborative art work using a range of materials and techniques. The children will be encouraged to select the correct colour for a purpose and create simple representations of people, events and objects.

### Drop off and collection at the beginning and end of nursery sessions

As you are aware Nursery has its own entrance at the front of the school. When arriving at nursery, please line up outside the double doors ready to come in. You will then be able to bring your child in and go straight to their pegs. Please be patient over the first few weeks as this may take longer while the children become familiar with the location of their pegs.

At the end of the session we use a one-way system through the nursery to collect your child. You will come in through the entrance door and go round the nursery to collect your child who will have all of their things ready on the carpet. This also allows opportunities to approach any member of staff within the nursery to discuss any problems or queries you may have. You will then be able to take your child out of the exit door on the carpet area. We are hoping that this will be a smooth and calm period so encourage you to keep it as free-flowing as possible.

Due to health and safety we cannot allow pushchairs in the Nursery at any time, although you are welcome to leave these parked outside. Many Thanks

Quality, Enthusiasm and Partnership