

Highwood News - November, December & January

Welcome to the winter edition of our newsletter.

We are starting to feel very festive at the nursery, the children are beginning to get excited and we thrive on their enthusiasm. We will be very busy doing lots of Christmas activities preparing the children for "The most wonderful time of the year..."

So as we are fast approach a very busy but exciting time of the year let us start by giving you some very important dates for your diary.....

## Important dates for your diary.....



### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November

We will be dressing up to raise monies for children in need. Please send your child dressed in a Spotacular outfit or in a Pudsey T- Shirt. We are asking for a small donation of £2.00 from each child which will be donated to this charity. Thank-You



### Fancy Dress Day: - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

We are hoping to make our very popular Chocolate tombola a huge success , so would be very grateful if bring your child dressed in their favourite costume on this day along with a donation of chocolate for the stall.



### Christmas Fayre: - 12.30~ 2.30 Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Please join us for our annual Christmas Fayre. There will be a variety of stalls, Tombola, Bouncy Castle, Refreshments, Face painting, Raffle, Winter Wonderland leading to Santa's Grotto and lots more



## Christmas Nativity and Carol Concert: - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

Christmas is a wonderful time of year, especially when you are surrounded by children. Our nativity is a special event where staff and our pre-school children work together to celebrate the meaning of Christmas.

The children always look forward to learning the words to new songs and practicing their part ready for the day when we invite parents along to share our nativity performance. **Due to health and safety we have to limit the amount of guests to 2 adult per pre-school child, sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.**



## Christmas Lunch: - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas lunch will be served for all the children attending on this day. Our Nursery Cook, Sue will be making roast turkey with all the trimmings.



## Christmas Party Day: - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

We are expecting a special visitor to the Christmas Party and have been reliably informed that we are booked for an afternoon visit from this very special guest!?!



## Christmas Jumper Day: - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December

This year it's all about doing your bit in a Christmas knit and supporting [Macmillan Cancer Support](#), [Save the Children UK](#) and [Make-A-Wish UK](#)

So dig out your Christmas jumpers and please donate for these very worthy charities.

# Christmas Opening Times

Friday 13th December  
All Nursery Grant Funding Finishes.

Tuesday 24th December-Christmas Eve  
Nursery Closes for Christmas at 4pm

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020  
Nursery re opens

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
Nursery grant funding recommences for the Spring term.

All the staff would like to wish all the parents and children a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## General information.....

### **Warm Clothes**

Now that Autumn seems to have arrived and its getting a bit cooler, could we please ask parents to ensure that they bring their children into nursery in named appropriate clothes. Children will still be accessing our wonderful outside areas, therefore needing warmer clothing such as jumpers, coats and wellington boots.

We would also be grateful if you could send in a pair of slippers for wearing inside at nursery.

### **Safeguarding**

#### **Mobile phones**

Please can we ask that mobile phones are not used when in the nursery. This is to safeguard all the children in our care. Staff will ask you to wait outside whilst using your mobile.

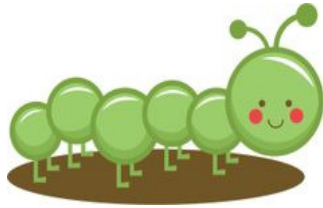
We are a mobile phone free site.

#### **Childs absence**

If your child is going to be absent from nursery for any reason, including illness or day out please call or email nursery to let us know and we can adjust the registers accordingly. If we have not heard from you by 10am it is our duty to contact, you via phone or email to ensure the wellbeing of yourselves.

#### **Fee Increase**

Just a reminder..... Highwood has its annual fee increase in January. Please take extra care when looking at your invoices and note the change in price. If you have any questions regarding this please don't hesitate to speak to us.



## Caterpillar Room

The caterpillar room children have collected autumn leaves and used them to make leaf prints which helped them to create their autumn display.

The children will be making bright and colourful firework pictures by getting a little messy when exploring the paint with their fingers.

The children will also be creating their own poppy pictures for remembrance Sunday.

As the seasons change we will be updating our display boards for winter, so the children will be very creative making lots of pictures to go on the display. We will be busy making Christmas craft to bring home to share with you.

**Physical Development: moving and handling: (8-20) Holds pen or crayon using a whole and (palmar) grasp and makes random marks with different strokes.**

We will be changing our treasure basket to include lots of lovely Christmas objects for the children to explore.

**Understanding the world: the world : (8-20) Anticipates repeated sounds, sights and actions, e.g. when an adult demonstrates an action to several times.**

We will be introducing Christmas songs and rhymes to sing to the children.

**Expressive arts and design: (8-20) Move their whole bodies to sounds they enjoy such as music or a regular beat**

## January

We will be updating our treasure baskets for the children to explore winter objects, the children to explore winter hats and gloves and winter objects

The children will be busy exploring paint and ice cubes with this hands developing use of their senses.

To celebrate Chinese New Year we will be making pictures and developing our hand eye co-ordination having fun with the rice and the noodles.



## Butterfly Room

November :Colour of the month: Orange

To celebrate bonfire night we are going to be getting creative with fluorescent paint and brightly coloured tissue paper to create artwork representing fireworks to update Our Arts and crafts display board.

**Expressive Arts and Design: exploring and using media and materials (22-36) " Experiments with blocks, colours and marks"**

In relation to bonfire night we will talk about fire safety and about people who help us we will be exploring this using different role play dressing up and props and looking at the people who help us stories. This will give the children a better understanding of special people and jobs that they do.

**Expressive arts and design being imaginative (22-36) "Beginning to make believe by pretending"**

We are going to be updating our construction display by creating lots of construction art by printing with the different bricks. We will look at the different patterns and textures we can see and feel.

**Physical development -Moving and handling 22-36 "Shows control in handling and using jugs to pour, hammers, books and mark making tools"**

The seasonal display is now changing to winter. We will create some wintery artwork to go on our winter board. As well as talking about the changes in the weather and what clothes we need to wear.

**Understanding the world:The world(22-36)- " Notices detailed features of objects in their environment"**

Our free flow area will turn into a Wintery Wonderland and we are going to create a display based on Rudolph the red nosed reindeer along with our winter display so the children are going to be very busy !!

The children are going to be making special gifts for their loved ones to send home nearer to Christmas. We are going to be learning lots of Christmas songs which we hope the children will keep you entertained and sing them for you at home.

**Communication and Language: Listening and attention (22-36)" show interest in play with sounds, songs and rhymes"**

In January we are going to looking at a new story " We are going on a bear hunt" the children really enjoy this story and therefore we are going on a trip in the back garden

to find the bear. We are going to be exploring lots of different environments to link to the story. We will be using the story sack and encourage the children to join in copying sentences and talking about what they see.

**Literacy : Reading (22-36)" repeats words or phrases from familiar stories "**

We are going to be learning about the Chinese New Year, We will making crafts and enjoy some food tasting where the children can talk about foods they like/dislike.

**Physical development : Health and Self care (16-26)-" Develops own likes and dislikes in food and drink "**

Ladybird Room



This month we will begin to explore and show interest in " Bonfire Night" discussing Guy Fawkes and developing listening and attention using memory skills from those they may have heard at the weekend if you have any photographs of any fireworks you have been to please send them to [info@highwooddaynursery.co.uk](mailto:info@highwooddaynursery.co.uk) we would love to see them !!

The children will be listening to Frances the firefly story developing their listening and attention throughout story time enabling them to recall and show understanding.

**Literacy-reading - Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall.**

**Describes main story settings, events and principal characters**

We are hoping to arrange a little trip for the children to take the food they have kindly donated to the local food bank to give to those less fortunate.

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November we will be having a red day, creating cork printed poppies and having lots of red themed activities related to Remembrance Day supporting our British Values and encouraging the children to take part in a minutes silence to help remember those in battle.

**Understanding the world- comment and ask questions about aspects of their familiar world**

Now that autumn has arrived please ensure your child brings a suitable coat and footwear. As Tuesday is Our forest school day and children to explore the natural outdoor and mud kitchen area.

Understanding the world-(30-50)-Shows care and concern for living things and the environment

December

Wow!! How this year has flown?! We will begin our countdown using our sock advent calendar to enable the children to recognise names of personal significance for them receive a yummy treat if their name is inside the sock.

Over the following weeks the children will be listening to the story of " The first Christmas" they will be acting this out as part of their nativity play..

The children will be practising their nativity play and Christmas carols. Please speak to Aimee or Vicki who will discuss your child's role, any words they will need to rehearse at home and whether you may need to supply your child with a costume.

Over the festive period the children will be writing their Christmas wish lists demonstrating their hand eye co-ordination and scissor control to cut out developing confidence when choosing what they would like for Christmas. We will be planning a walk into the environment to the local post office to post our letters to Father Christmas at the North Pole. This will be linked to changing our role play area into a Post office and Santa's work shop encouraging children's imagination and basing it on first hand experiences getting into the festive spirit!

Literacy-sometimes give meaning to marks as they draw/paint.

We will be getting involved in Christmas crafts as well as making cards and gifts for our loved ones. We will be developing our hand eye co-ordination designing our own wrapping paper and using this to wrap up boxes using cellotape and different sizes and shapes.

Maths-shape, space and measure-30-50- use shapes appropriately for tasks.

The children will be getting creative making a few special surprises to be sent home to be shared with loved ones. We will be problem solving by categorising Santa's/ Snowmen by size and putting numbers in order by sorting them out from smallest to biggest.

The children will be developing their hand eye co-ordination to make their own paper chains and compare who has made their chain the longest?

Maths - shape, space and measure-30-50- orders two or three items by length or height

The children will be learning about winter festival of light " Hanukkah" a Jewish festival on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December, the children will be making some brightly coloured pictures with potato printing and making star formations using lollipop sticks

Maths -shape, space, measure- Uses shapes appropriately for tasks.

We will be making our own Christmas hat during party day- Where a special visitor will be making an appearance, whose nose glows so bright and 8 magical reindeer?

In January - Welcome 2020, New year , new term !!!

We will be introducing children to the new season "Winter". We will be using our observation and problem solving skills to watch and explore the changes to ice when it melts.

The children will be busy working together to sort out clothing suitable for hot and cold weather and developing our hand eye co-ordination using scissor control to cut out items to dress the people that are printed on paper and cut out their own snowflakes using folded paper.

**P.D-Moving and handling-40-60- Handles tools with increasing control.**

Our new literacy book is "Stick Man" the children have shown previously shown their love for Julia Donaldson stories they will explore by making their own stick man at forest school, connecting the twigs together enhancing their imagination working as a group to make a stick family, painting characters from the story and the use their listening and attention to repeat, rhyming words and known phrases.

**Literacy-reading-30-50- Describes main settings, events and principal characters**

Chinese new year 2020-The zodiac is the rat, We will be decorating lanterns, making fans and red money envelopes representing luck. We will be food tasting as well as developing hand eye co-ordination to manipulate and use chopsticks in the noodle play. We will be changing our role play area into a Chinese restaurant for the children to explore and use their imagination through experiences given to them.

**E.A.D-30-50- Use available resources to support role play**

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January - We will be celebrating Burns night. We will be finding out who Robert Burns is and Listening to his poetry at group time.

The children will be making cock-a-leekie soup ( chicken and vegetable) to celebrate burns night developing knife control to cut up vegetables to make this recipe themselves as well as looking at Scottish food pictures, Bagpipes - Do you know what they do ? What are they used for?

The children will be decorating Scottish flags and colouring in pictures, using their imagination to paint a Loch Ness monster

**Maths -number-Uses some number names accurately in play.**

**Physical-Uses one-handed tools and equipment, e.g. makes snips in paper with child Scissors.**