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Term 3 - January 2020

**Welcome back; hope you all had a lovely Christmas and
are looking forward to 2020!**

Can you believe we are now in Term 3?

We are now starting to think ahead to September 2020 where some children will be starting school. With this in mind we are encouraging children's independence when putting coats, shoes on etc and the older children (and any children who would like to) will be taking home a reading book and bag to prepare them for school, so please be patient with them as they practice their skills at home!

We will also be starting morning groups with all children ranging from handwriting, maths, literacy, guided reading and phonics.

If you would like your child to attend any additional adhoc sessions this term, please speak to me.

We are advertising for a new member of staff to join our happy team so please ask around or if you are interested in a new challenge please contact me for more information and an application form.

As of January 2020 the committee have decided to start offering limited spaces for 30 hour government funding.

To qualify for 30 hour funding, parents need to register with the HMRC for a code and re-confirm the code every 3 months. If this code is not re-confirmed every three months, parents will be expected to pay the full Nursery fees for the full term ahead. Parents would then need to re-register with the HMRC for a code. The code must be acquired before the full term starts, for example by 31st December for January start, 31st March for April start and 31st August for September start. This will be offered on a first come first served basis. The Government funding forms have been put in trays and the deadline for them to be returned is Friday 17th January 2020 to enable me to put in the claims.

We understand that people's circumstances can change so please inform me of any changes to your personal information.

Just as a reminder we are a **NO NUT** Nursery. We ask that parents bring in snack items weekly, these can be fresh fruit/veg or other healthy snacks such as bread sticks, cheesy crackers, dried fruit and cheese.

We also ask that no sweets or chocolate bars are put in lunch boxes and that grapes are cut in half. Please ensure all drinks bottles contain only water!

For birthday treats, if you would like to bring in cakes or biscuits, that would be great, but please be very careful to check the ingredients for nuts beforehand.

The children have pegs and trays so please check and empty them regularly. Please also remember to bring in at least two changes of clothes and nappies/wipes if needed and if your child is wearing Nursery clothes, please wash and return them as soon as possible.

There is a lost property box in the cloakroom, so please keep checking to see if any of your child's items are in there. Please could all children's clothing be **NAMED** to ensure that they are returned to the correct child.

Reminder: Please shut the gate on arrival or departure. Staff will lock and unlock the gate as necessary.

The New Adventure Playground should not be used after school hours and should not be used by Nursery children.

I have been informed that the closing date of Reception application is 15th January 2020 and the national offer date is 16th April 2020. If your child will be starting school next September 20 you will need to apply online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Learning Journeys are in the cloakroom for your child, we will put information in them from time to time and please feel free to add anything if you would like to.

Topics for this term are as follows:

Farm animals
Zoo animals
Chinese New Year
Wild animals
Sea life
Valentines

Its official, Forest School has now started so please make sure that your child has spare clothing, warm waterproof trousers, coats and welly boots at Nursery to enable them to take part in the fun activities on offer!

Fundraising events this term - Watch this space for the Fundraising Newsletter!

Please preview Horspath Nurseries Amazon wish list at:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3KHCOFG9IYRLO?ref_=wl_share

A massive thank you to Benicio's family who have deep cleaned the Nursery over the Christmas holiday!

Another good fundraising opportunity is by signing up to easy fundraising at the following link: <http://easyfundraising.org.uk/>. This is a quick and easy way to raise money for the Nursery, all you need to do is register then remember to click to donate when purchasing anything online.

On Week Commencing Monday 13th January 2020 we will be starting a library, where your child will take a book home and bring it back the following week, so please support us by reading it with them and returning it at the beginning of each week.

Don't forget if you would like to purchase Nursery t-shirts or sweatshirts, we have limited supplies. They cost £5 per t-shirt and £10 per Sweatshirt. We also have Nursery bags at £5 and drinks bottles at £4.

Toby Ted is still doing the rounds but can children please bring him in the following day.

Dates for your Diary:

Deadline for Government funding forms 17th Jan
Zoolab Visit 30th Jan at 1.15pm
February Half Term 17th-21st Feb 2020
Easter Holiday 6th - 17th April 2020
Easter Playscheme 6th Apr-9th Apr incl.
Bank Holiday Friday 8th May 2020
May Half Term 25th-29th May 2020
Summer Holiday begins Friday 17th July 2019
Summer Playscheme 27th July - 7th Aug 20 incl.

If you would like to speak to any member of staff with any worries or queries please do not hesitate to approach us or phone / email to make an appointment.

Kind regards

Joanne Horne