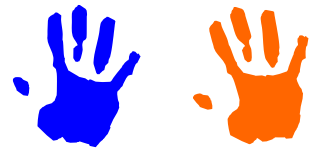




Holly Park Nursery



Autumn term 2024 Newsletter

Welcome back to all of our lovely families who have returned after the summer holidays. We hope you had an amazing summer and are ready for another year at Holly Park.

We would also like to welcome all of our new families who have joined the nursery over the last few weeks. The children are settling in very well and it is wonderful seeing so many of them walk into class with a smile on their face every day.

Nursery information – Please read!

Book bags – your child needs a red book bag to bring into school every day. Some children are bringing in small back packs but it is difficult to fit letters, pictures and other items into these bags. Every child should have a proper school book bag.

Toys – please do not let your child bring in toys from home. It causes a lot of upset.

Water bottles – please ensure that there is only water in children's water bottles. No juice. Put your child's name on their water bottle. Some children do not recognise their own water bottles yet and it really helps the nursery adults if a name is on the bottle so that we can ensure the children are drinking from the correct bottles.

Names – please ensure that EVERYTHING is labelled including shoes, scarves, hats and gloves if possible.

Packed lunch – please adhere to the school policy when it comes to packed lunches. This includes no chocolate and no fizzy drinks. Do not put Nutella in your child's sandwiches as this contains nuts and we have children with severe allergies in the school. New government guidelines also advise that fruit and vegetable should be cut into slices to prevent choking. Grapes and popcorn should not be given as a snack.

Fruit – thank you so much to the parents who have donated fruit to the nursery. We do get fruit given to us daily through the school but we can often get a lot of the same fruit and we like the children to have a variety to choose from at snack time. A random mango, pineapple, orange, banana or pack of raspberries is very much appreciated. **We cannot accept kiwis or grapes.**

Books – Once the children have settled and has a school book bag, they will get a chance to choose a book to take home. There will not be a particular day that these books are changed but the adults will do it with the children when they can. Please ensure that these books stay in your child's book bag otherwise they will not be able to swap it for another.

Beginning of nursery session – Please say goodbye to your child at the door. **Do not come into the building.** Also if you bring your child late, please do not open the nursery door. Children could run out and it is not safe. Wait for a member of staff to open the door for you.

Lateness: It is very important that you arrive on time at the nursery. Nursery starts at 8.45am and we expect everyone to be here at this time. Also please ensure you are on time to pick your child up.

Snacks: Please do not bring in extra snacks for your child. We do not have individual snacks in nursery.

Tell us everything – Please tell an adult if there have been any changes at home or something has happened that may affect your child's mood and behaviour. We are always willing to listen even if it is something you think is really small. We can find somewhere quiet to talk if needed or you can ask for Miss Wood to call you.

Junk Modelling

The children love making models using a variety of materials and we are sure that you love receiving your child's creations (especially the really big ones).

If you have empty boxes, cartons, tubes, lids, plastic bottles, paper, card, gift bags, ribbon, string, wool etc... then we would love to take them off your hands. These can be given to any of the nursery adults.

What can you do to help your child at home?

- Encourage your child to be independent. Give them jobs to do e.g. clean the table, put own dishes in the sink, pick up toys and put them in the box after playing with them.
- Read lots of stories! This will help with their speech and language development as well as their listening and attention skills.
- Point out numbers around you such as on the front of doors and on buses. Can they see any numbers?
- Ask children for small amounts of objects e.g. when in the shop ask your child to pick up 2 oranges or 3 apples and put them in the basket.
- Do lots of activities that will help strengthen your child's fingers. This will make it easier for them to hold a pen correctly and become good at drawing and writing. Good activities include playdough, slime, moulding foam, construction such as Lego and K'Nex, picking things up with tweezers, keys and locks and pins in corkboards.
- Give your child a variety of mark making equipment and just let them experiment with making different shapes and patterns. They can use gel pens, felt tip pens, pencils, crayons, chalk, pastels, glitter pens and paint. Give them note pads, coloured paper, cards and post-it's to draw on. Encourage them to talk about the marks they have made.
- Talk about the world around you. When at the park, at the shops or just going for a walk; talk about what you can see, hear and smell. This will widen your child's experiences and get them thinking about their environment. It will also help them to learn new vocabulary and improve their language and communication skills.

Nursery places

We have nursery places available!. If you know of anyone who would like their child to attend Holly Park Nursery in January 24, April 24, Sept 24 or even Jan 25 then they can find an application form on the school website. They can also email or call the school and ask for a form to be sent to them. There is no catchment area! *Please note that we only have PM places left for the rest of this year

Shopping? Hospital appointment? Job interview? Pay for extra hours!

You have already told the school what hours you would like for this half term and you will get an invoice for these hours at the beginning of each half term. If you would like to change these then you can do before the next half term starts. However, there will be times when you would like your child to stay for an extra session because of an appointment or you would like to get shopping done before the kids come home! If you would like an extra one off breakfast club, PM nursery session, lunch or afterschool club then please speak to Miss Wood and check there is space at least 24 hours before the day you want to book.

Social Media

You can find Holly Park Nursery on Facebook and also on Instagram (hollypark_nursery). Here you will be able to see some of the activities that your children are doing in class.

If you have any worries, questions or you just want to talk to a member of the nursery team about something then please do come to one of us. If it looks like we are busy email the school and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you for your continuous support!

Louise Wood Clare Mornington