



Holly Park Nursery



Spring Term Newsletter 2026

Welcome back to all of our lovely families. We hope you had a wonderful holiday and it is nice to see the children getting back into routine. A big welcome to all of our new families who have joined us.

Dates to remember!

Thursday 26th February – Nursery Rhyme Day: Children will be coming into nursery dressed up as something or someone from a nursery rhyme

Thursday 7th May – Colours Curriculum Day: Children will be coming into nursery dressed in their favourite colour

Friday 5th June – Nursery school trip to Holland Park

You will receive separate letters about all of these special days giving more information closer to the time.

Nursery places for September, January and April

We have spaces in the nursery for children due to start in April 26, September 26 and January 27. If you know of anybody looking for a nursery place for their child please tell them to get in touch. They can apply online or contact the office to arrange a phone call or tour with the nursery teacher.

Maths in nursery (numbers and counting)

By the end of nursery we expect most children to do the following:

Fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually (We have been learning to say "I see 3! I see 2! I see 1! as quickly as possible using our 'fast eyes'")

Recite numbers past 5

Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5

Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total

Show 'finger numbers' up to 5

Link numerals and amounts e.g. showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5

We try to include these concepts in the children's play and there are lots of opportunities for children to practise these skills in all areas of the classroom. We play lots of number games and use Cbeebies Numberblocks weekly to support the children in their learning which they love!

Responsibility

As a school we are learning about the word 'responsibility'. In nursery we have been talking to children about their own responsibilities such as remembering to bring their book bag and water bottle into school every day. Each child has chosen a book to take home and have been told that it is their responsibility to make sure that the book is kept in their book bag and brought back to nursery so that it can be changed. Please can you support your child in doing this.

Mark making

The children are always mark making. Mark making is early writing. Mark making activities include:

- Painting with water and brushes on the floor outside
 - Pushing and pulling cars through paint
 - Chalk drawing on the floor
- Making marks in playdough, salt, cornflour
- Drawing/painting on big paper on the floor

The children have been making lots of different types of marks using a variety of mark making tools and we have been encouraging the children to talk about the marks that they make.

We are now working with the children on drawing representative pictures. These are pictures that are starting to look like what they are supposed to e.g. a person with a round head, a body and lines for arms and legs. Please do not draw for your child but try to get them to think about the shapes they need to draw so that their picture is clear. If your child is drawing a car, you could ask; What shape do the wheels need to be? How many windows are you going to draw? What else do cars have on them?

We are also encouraging the children to hold their pens correctly when making marks.



Here are some of the things we will be doing in nursery this term



We will be learning about the author and illustrator Eric Carle. We will be reading his books and trying to create our own Eric Carle style artwork



We will be learning about growing by planting our own sunflower seeds



We are learning about celebrations such as Chinese New Year and Easter. If you have any photographs of your child celebrating a special day we would love to share them with the class. Please send any photos to the office and ask for them to be forwarded to Miss Wood.



Goldilocks and the three bears. The children will be re-telling and acting out the story. They will also be drawing their own story pictures.

Thank you!

We really do have the best families and we are so grateful for your continued kindness and support. Remember we are always here to talk and answer questions. Just grab us at the door!

Nursery information and reminders

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.

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 and jewellery – please do not let your child bring in toys from home. It causes a lot of upset. Please do not let your child bring costume jewellery into school either such as bracelets and necklaces

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 – 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. They can then swap their book whenever they want. Please ensure that these books stay in your child's book bag otherwise they will not be able to swap it for another.

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.

Shoes: Children need to wear appropriate school shoes. No laces and no cros please.

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.

