Horsham Nursery School

Headteacher: Mrs L Mellor, BEd Hons
Harwood Road, Horsham
West Sussex, RH13 5UT
Tel: 01403 224430
Email: office@horshamnursery.co.uk

July 2025

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

As the Summer Term draws to an end, I'd like to thank you for all your support this term. It has been a very busy term for transition and we very much hope your child settles well in their new rooms or new Schools as they move up age groups. We are fondly saying goodbye to 85 of our children this summer, many of them who have been with us since Explorers. For those leaving us this term you will be receiving Leavers Reports by the end of this week. Please do send us 'First day at School' photos, we love to see them in their uniform, in September!

We had a successful Ofsted inspection in May upholding our previous 'Good' grading and demonstrating that leaders have moved the school on since the previous inspection. I am grateful to my senior leaders and the whole team for the hard work and passion they put in every day for our children.

Open morning

We had a wonderful Open Morning with many families old and new visiting to see our Nursery provision. We raised a fabulous £182.35 in total which we are spending directly on the children's summer parties.

Summer Parties

Our Summer Parties for each room will be held on Wednesday 16th July. If your child does not usually attend that day, your child is welcome to come and join in the fun in the Overs between 1.15pm and 2.15pm on the day. Please let your child's Key Carer that your child will be attending. If your child is in the Explorers or Discoverers we will confirm arrangements with you next week.

Meals at Nursery:

Chartwells and Zebedees lunches: From July 23rd onwards Zebedees will be our new meal provider for the Under 3's lunches and Overs Holiday club lunches. Chartwells will continue to provide just the Over 3's lunches during term time until their contract ends next year. I'd like to reassure you that Wendy will still be cooking tea every day for all children all year round. When she is on annual leave we will order in a hot Zebedees tea.

We are delighted to tell you that we have secured a considerable grant through the childcare expansion DFE funding to refurbish our main kitchen. This will be installed during the summer holiday so we will also be using Zebedees to provide a cold tea over this period for all children. Please see the website for sample menus. https://zebedees.co.uk/our-food

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Parent Passport (Tiny Tracker)

Unfortunately after the incredible hard work that Katie and the team have been putting into starting up Tiny Tracker, the company is folding. Please be assured that we are looking for a better alternative to share your child's learning with you from September.

30 hours Working Families funded sessions

We will be accepting 30 hour codes for children aged 9 months and over. For Explorers and Discoverers this is a stretched offer of 22 hours per week all year round, the Over 3's is for 15 hours per week term time only. Please apply for your codes now and inform the office by **25th July**.

Forest School

Thank you to Sally who has maintained the high standards in Forest School. The children have loved their weekly sessions which Sally prepares with so much thought. Sally has passed her Outdoor Paediatric First Aid this term and we recently heard that she has maintained the standards for us to retain our Forest School Accreditation!

Our studious staff

The staff at Horsham Nursery are dedicated to studying, sometimes in their own time to improve their practice. Congratulations go to Michelle Charlton for passing the ELSA training, Kasia Pelc, Sarah Jalal and Michelle Charlton for passing their Level 3 Childcare this year. We have several other staff about to take their final Level 3 assessments soon. Katie and I have also studied for the National Qualification in Early Years Leadership. We wish all our bank staff who are waiting for exam results good luck as they continue to support us over the summer!

Some last reminders:

Photos

If you haven't yet ordered your photographs from Smiles Photography it's not too late!

Lost property

There is a vast amount of lost property in our foyer. Please check through it by Friday 18th July as after this date it will be sorted into spares for Nursery or for charity.

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Hats and Suncream

If you haven't yet donated to the suncream funds, please pop £5 onto your invoice or in an envelope to the office. Please send in a named hat every day over the summer period so that we can keep your child safe in the sun.

Parking

We regularly remind parents that there is no parking in our Nursery car park between 8.30am and 4.15pm. My staff and I have been disappointed that a **very few parents** have decided to flout this, despite being reminded several times, to the point of feeling threatened by parents when challenged.

This is a rule for everyone, but to explain why: There are only 27 spaces for over 60 staff who come and go for shifts all day. Many of these staff also 'park and stride'. It might seem ok to park up for 'just a minute' or while you drop off at Kingslea. However, you are preventing our staff to arrive at work, ready to care for your children. On some days we have professionals or special visitors for events, arriving at Nursery for appointments to support your children, who are unable to park.

Going forwards, we will not be able to open specific groups on time unless all our staff are able to park and get into the building for the start of your child's session. There are legal ratios of staff to children that we must abide by, so we need staff to be in the rooms on time. We will not tolerate abusive comments or swearing, particularly in the hearing of our children.

We do not expect anybody to park in front of our emergency gates, blocking access for the emergency services.

Last dates:

End of term for Over 3's: Tuesday 22nd July

Holiday club for Over 3's: Wednesday 23rd July- Tuesday 2nd September

Whole Nursery closed: Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th September for staff training INSET

We look forward to seeing all our current children back from Friday 5th September!

Best wishes,

Liz Mellor

Headteacher