Horsham Nursery School

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

September 24

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

We would like to give you all a warm welcome back to a new academic year at Horsham Nursery! The children settling in or moving up to new rooms have done incredibly well thanks to your support in taking part in their transition and the nurturing team members across our nursery. What a great start to the year with so many smiles!

For all new families joining us we will be running New Parents Welcome meetings on Wednesday 9th October at 9am and 5pm. Invitations will come out to you individually to book in. These meetings will enable you to meet key members of staff and to get a flavour of your child's day at Nursery.

Our Senior Leadership Team

Going forwards our Senior Leadership Team will be:

Liz Mellor Headteacher	Jane Coates, School Business Manager	Tina Fosberry Lead Practitioner of the Under 3's	Angie Stenning SENCo and SSC Teacher	Katie Dyrda Lead Teacher

Our Senior leaders are available every day to talk to if you have any key messages to pass on or any concerns. Please chat to us at the door or email in via the office.

Staff news

We would like to offer our congratulations to Katie Dyrda, who got married in the summer holidays! Also to Emma Scott, who gave birth to a gorgeous baby boy last week!

Amanda Thorne has moved into a new role within West Sussex, supporting other settings with SEN provision and has handed over to Angie Stenning who will be our new SENCo.

Horsham Nursery School

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

Forest school

At Horsham Nursery School we value outdoor learning and are lucky to have a qualified Forest School Lead, Becky Somers, and a dedicated Forest School area for learning. Here is a message from Becky:

Exciting news: Forest school will be starting on Tuesday 17th September!

The timetable for this half term is as follows:

Tuesday	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**
9.15am: Discoverers	9.15am: Angie's group	9.15am: Discoverers
10.15am: Katie's group	10.15am: Bronwen's group	10.15am: Jo's group
1.15pm: Becca's group 2.30pm: Ceri's group		

Please note the timetable changes over the three days every half term, to allow as many children as possible to experience forest school.

Forest school runs in most weathers, to ensure the children enjoy forest school please may we request that if your child has forest school first thing, can they please wear appropriate clothing ready for the session. If it is later in the day, please can they have named full waterproofs, wellies and extra layers in a named bag. This helps eliminate extra changing time when getting a whole group ready for forest school. Whilst we do have a few spares, your child should bring their own waterproofs and wellies so we don't have to spend time searching for the right size to borrow. Your support is greatly appreciated.

A big part of forest school is exploring and creating play opportunities with loose parts, with this in mind we are always collecting items including: Pine cones, sticks, acorns, conker's and wooden curtain rings.

Forest school is also looking for large cable drums to enrich our environment. Thank you for your support for the continual success and growth of our forest school.

Please see the separate Forest School Leaflet coming out to you with this Newsletter from Becky with more details.

Horsham Nursery School

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

Parent Questionnaire:

Thank you to the all parents who gave us feedback at the end of July. The responses are in and once again showed a positive improvement in all questions we asked you. These are published on our website if you would like to look at them in more detail.

The Senior Leaders place great importance in responding to your comments on the survey, drawing out common themes or individual responses and working towards further improvements.

Reminders…..

Passwords

We ask all families to set up a confidential password in order to safeguard your child. If someone different is picking up your child please tell us when you drop off and ensure that person knows the password. You may also be asked this password by the office staff when discussing your child over the phone.

Parking

Our car park is only for staff parking unless there are special circumstances in which case a permit will be issued. Between the hours of 8.30am and 4.15pm we politely ask you not to park in our car park. This will enable our staff to park and be on time for their shifts. The disabled spaces remain available for Blue Badge holders.

Parent declarations for Funded Hours

A reminder from the Office team that Parent Declaration forms have been sent out to all eligible parents and will need returning to the office by Friday 13th September in order for us to claim your funding.

What to bring to Nursery- a reminder from the Overs Team:

Please bring spare clothes, wellies and waterproofs in a small bag that can fit on your peg. We welcome your fruit and veg donations which we share at snack times. At Nursery we are active all day long so please send your child in wearing shoes that they can climb in, and that they can take on and off themselves. (No open toes or laces please.)

It is important not to send in plastic bags for storing belongings on pegs, snacks or drinks in bags and especially not toys or comforters as these are easily lost in our large space when misplaced. Thank you for your support with this.

Horsham Nursery School

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

DLA applications

If you have a child with Special Educational Needs you may be eligible for Disability Living Allowance for children (DLA). This is a weekly rate to support parents financially who are looking after children considered to have Special Educational Needs. The Disability Living Allowance is between £23.70-£152.15 a week, depending on which rate you are eligible for.

It is parental choice whether to apply for Disability Living Allowance or not. If you do choose to claim Disability Living Allowance, please inform the office. If you are already in receipt of DLA please email the office to confirm this by the 13th September.

If you are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, we can claim some extra funding to use at nursery to further support your child.

If you would like a paper copy of the form please ask the office and if you would like support in completing aspects of this form please contact your Key Carer or the SENCo, Angie, via the school office.

Overview of DLA: https://www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children

Eligibility: https://www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children/eligibility

DLA form: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disability-living-allowance-for-children-claim-form

On the following page there is a list of key dates for the term to help you plan your calendars. As you can see below, there is lots going on for the children and families this term at Nursery. We always love to have parents, carers and grandparents in to help so you will see the key dates there when we will be asking for your involvement- all welcome! Please don't hesitate to ask us any questions for further detail, give us feedback and request any support by speaking to your Key Carer, the Senior Leadership Team or through the office.

Warm wishes,

Liz Mellor

Headteacher

Horsham Nursery School

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

Key Dates Autumn 24

Date:	Event:	Overs	Unders
September 30th	Big Draw week: a focus on mark making across the week.	✓	✓
October 4th	Deadline for Holiday Club bookings for Overs (booking link to be sent out on 16/9/24).	✓	
Wednesday October 9th	**New parents meeting for all children** who started in September 9.00am or 5.00pm	✓	✓
October 21st- 24th	**Stay and Play**- join in the fun for the first half hour of one of your child's sessions. Join us during the week by coming to our informative parent workshops on how to help your child- dates to be confirmed.	✓	✓
Friday 25th October	**INSET Day**- whole Nursery closed for staff training	✓	✓
October 28th- November 1st	Half term closure for Overs (Holiday club available). Up to Explorers and Discoverers stay open.	✓	
November 11th – 15th	National Nursery Rhyme week will be celebrated- **parents and grandparents invited in** to join in the fun!	✓	✓
November 15th	Children in Need: more information to follow regarding dressing up!	✓	✓
Weeks beginning 11th and 18th November	**Parent Consultation Meetings**- Discoverers and Explorers- invitations from Key Carers to follow		✓
November 19st and 21st	**Parent Consultation Meetings** – Overs- time slots to be open for you to book	✓	
November 29th	Deadline for Christmas Holiday Club bookings for Overs (booking link to be issued 8/11/24).	✓	
December 10th	Christmas Singing-11.30am and 3.30pm Two tickets per family with any spare tickets allocated by request.	✓	
December 2nd -6th	Overs visit the Post box- **Parent helpers needed!**	✓	
Week beginning 16th December	Christmas parties for all children	✓	✓
December 20th	End of term for Overs (Holiday club available 23rd, 24th Dec, 2nd and 3rd Jan)	✓	
December 24th	Whole Nursery closed for Christmas break at **1pm.**	✓	✓
January 2nd	First day back for the new year 2025 for Discoverers and Explorers.		✓
January 6th	**INSET Day**- whole Nursery closed for staff training	✓	✓
January 7th	First day of term for Over 3's Nursery	✓	