



November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Just a few reminders, information and requests:

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

We will be celebrating **Christmas Jumper Day** on Tuesday 6th December as well as the official day of Thursday 8th December.

We will be holding **Christmas parties** on Wednesday 14th December (in the morning) and Friday 16th December (in the afternoon). We will welcome small food donations and will provide a sign-up sheet nearer the time. We hope that Father Christmas will come and join the fun, and ask that parents arrive slightly early to accompany their child to the grotto - Wednesday from 11am and Friday 2pm. Children attending 30 hours can attend both parties and visit Father Christmas on the Friday.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

TERM DATES 2022/23

This term finishes on Friday 16th December

Term 3: Tuesday 3 January 2023 to Friday 10 February 2023

Term 4: Monday 20 February 2023 to Friday 31 March 2023

Term 5: Monday 17 April 2023 to Friday 26 May 2023

Term 6: Monday 5 June 2023 to Friday 21 July 2023

INSET DAYS

A reminder that our new INSET (staff training day) is next Wednesday 7th December. We will be closed in the morning and re-open for the afternoon session at 12.30pm.

The INSET days for the rest of the school year are:

Wednesday 7th December - half day closure (open from 12.30 to 3.30pm only)

Wednesday 8th February - closed all day

Wednesday 22nd March - half day closure (open from 8.30 to 11.30am only)

Wednesday 10th May - half day closure (open from 12.30 to 3.30pm only)

Wednesday 7th June - half day closure (open from 8.30 to 11.30am only)

Wednesday 5th July - closed all day

SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

If your child was born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019 you need to apply for a reception school place. The deadline for applications is midnight 15 January 2023. If you need support with this, the office team will be able to help you.

Apply now at : www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions

FAMILY PHOTOS

It would be great if each child could have a family photo to go on their key groups family board. The children love to look at pictures of themselves and their families and the photos promote lots of conversations. It doesn't need to be anything fancy or a studio portrait, a simple selfie shot will do. You can either upload a photo onto Tapestry or email to littlehayesn@bristol-schools.uk

EXCITING JOB OPPORTUNITY

- Would you, or someone you know, like a job in your local community?
- Are you looking for an interesting and rewarding role that fits around your child's school holidays?
- Do you have practical skills and a few hours a day to spare?
- Retired, but looking to keep busy?

If you answered yes to **any** of the above, we may have the perfect job for you.

We are looking for a caretaker to join our friendly and committed team here at Little Hayes Nursery School. The role is part time and term time only, and there can be some flexibility with the hours. Why not pop in or call the office to find out more.

INDEPENDENCE

We always encourage the children to be independent in their own self-care, especially when dressing and putting on coats, waterproof trousers and shoes. We have been learning different ways to put on our coats. Please support us with this by encouraging your child to do things for themselves at home. It will also help if they have shoes that they can manage independently, preferably with Velcro fastenings.

BOOK BAGS AND BOOK SHARE SCHEME

The children have been enjoying our regular story time sessions each day and we are delighted to re-start our book share scheme this term.

We know how much children love a story, particularly at bedtime, and how important it is for their language development and love of reading. To support this, we will be giving each child a book bag and the opportunity to borrow books every Wednesday from our extensive library, to share at home. Returning children should already have a book bag from last year. Please let your child's key person know if you can't find it.

Please remember to return the book, in the named book bag, each Wednesday ready to swap it for a new one. We would also really love your feedback on which stories the children enjoy. Each term we will share details of our core books and will create a story map that the children can bring home and use to re-tell the story. This term Willow room are reading Peace at Last and Oak room are reading Whatever Next!

If you would like to find out more about supporting your child's learning and reading at home, the [Words for Life website](#) has some great ideas.

Happy reading.

MATHS IS EVERYWHERE

This term in Oak room we have been exploring some new mathematical resources and discovery that we need to use our counting skills and mathematical thinking in all areas at nursery. The Early Childhood Maths Group has created a series of postcards to support families with mathematical learning at home. There are some great ideas and we use many of them at nursery every day. [To find out more and download the postcards, check out their website.](#)

MORNING SNACK

We like to offer a daily morning snack for the children but rely on voluntary donations from parents. All donations of fruit and vegetables are gratefully received.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for all your £2 voluntary contributions. This money helps us to purchase ingredients for cooking and resources for craft activities. Your support is greatly appreciated.

MUD, MUD, GLORIOUS MUD!

The rainy weather has taken its toll on the garden and there is LOTS of mud, but we still continue to go outside every day. Please make sure your child has appropriate, warm, clothing for the weather and bring a spare set of clothes for them to change into if they get wet or muddy. Please name all clothing as many of them look the same!

We are running short of waterproof trousers and would be grateful if you could supply them for your child. Please only dress them in outfits, and coats, that you don't mind them getting dirty. We have some spare clothes, but would be very grateful for any donations of socks, pants and trousers.

NAPPIES AND WIPES

If your child is still in nappies, please remember to send in wet wipes with their nappies every day.

NO DOGS

We would like to remind everyone that no dogs, other than assistance dogs, should be brought onto the nursery premises.

HOT LUNCHES

Our new catering provider, Chartwell's, are now providing hot dinners. Meals cost £2.15 each day and the delicious [menu is available on our website](#). Please let the office know if you would like to book school meals.

LUNCHBOX HINTS

You do not need to:

- include cutlery for lunch time as we will provide as required
- pack additional drinks for your child. We supply a choice of milk or water at snack and lunch times

Please:

- ensure that no sweets, chocolates or sugary drinks are packed in lunch boxes
- cut grapes in half as they can be a choking hazard
- no popcorn (see link below)
- do not pack items containing any nut products - we are a totally nut-free setting and have children with nut allergies

[See full early years guidance on choking hazards here.](#)

CLOTHING/TEXTILE BANK

Our textile bin next to the buggy park in the front garden has proven to be very popular since its installation. Thank you to everyone who has donated textiles. The textile re-use industry creates trade in the UK as well as abroad and gives people access to good quality, affordable used clothing and textiles. Your donations will provide another source of income to help us provide additional resources for the children.

You can donate clean usable clothing, paired shoes, bags, belts and soft toys.

Please place all items in a bag before donating.

PLEASE CLOSE THE GATES BEHIND YOU

For the safety of all the children, please remember to close the front gates behind you every time you enter and leave the nursery. This will prevent children being able to run out of the gate and, potentially, into the road.

If you have any questions, or require further information about any of the above, please speak to the office or your child's keyworker.

Thank you from the Little Hayes team.