



Welcome to our most recent newsletter. We have tried to include lots of information and important dates. We will add a copy of this Newsletter to our website and the Class Dojo.

## Learning, developments and things to look out for.....

### Spring Term 1

Across this half term children have been involved in lots of lovely learning opportunities. Not only have they spent time following their own interests, they have also enjoyed being outdoors and cooking over a fire, observing and finding out about different birds who visit our garden, taking part in Lunar New Year celebrations and meeting lots of visitors who help us in the community.

Blue Watch from Peterlee Fire Station, community police dogs Jet and Ben and our Crossing Patrol Officer all visited us and talked about their roles.



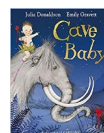
### Outdoor Garden Developments

We hope that you like our new outdoor additions to our 2 year old garden. Our friend Adam from AB Playgrounds has worked really hard to build a climb and slide area, along with a beautiful outdoor hut. These additions have provided the children with further physical opportunities and please watch this space as there is more to come.....

### World Book Day 2023

We had a lovely time celebrating World Book Day, taking part in lots of activities from some of our favourite stories and books. We shared lots of lovely stories together and took part in some group story sessions to retell the story of 'We're going on a bear hunt' and 'Mr Big' using the lycra and puppets.

Please check out the top tips for sharing stories and reading at home that we shared on the Class Dojo.



### Take a book home

Please remember to use our Lending Library, which is positioned near to the front entrance. You can borrow a book any time you like, all that we ask is that you sign them in and out with the date and your child's name. At nursery we promote repeated reading, with children listening to the same story lots of times. This supports them in learning new words and sounds, gaining an understanding of story structures and lets them join in and answer questions. If your child is enjoying a particular book, please feel free to keep it at home and read it as often as you can.

### School Website ([www.hordennursery.sch.uk](http://www.hordennursery.sch.uk))

We have updated some of our policies, which have been added to our website. We have also added a section on Healthy Eating and Oral Health. Please take a look, as there is lots of helpful information.

### Facebook Page

Please could we ask all parents to follow us on Facebook. We add lots of information and beautiful posts that show the learning that takes place across our nursery.

### Learning Journals

Our staff work really hard to write observations about some of the lovely things your child has been doing in nursery, along with spotlight assessments that are completed every 6 months. Please can we ask that all parents continue to view these on your Learning Journals account regularly. If you do not have/ have forgotten log in details, please come to the school office and the secretaries will be able to send you a new email to log in to the app.

### Food Bank Donations



In the past parents and families have been very kind and have donated food items, through our nursery, to East Durham Trust. This Trust provides food parcels to individuals and families who require support. We are a drop off point for donations. If you would like to make a donation, which can be as little as a tin of soup, you can find a basket in our reception area. There is also a list of wanted items which you might find helpful. Thank you in advance for your support.

We know that it is a tricky and expensive time at the moment. Please remember we are here to help and can support with referring families for food parcels or other advice.

### Our Governing Body

We currently have some vacancies for Parent Governors and would like to invite any interested family members to speak to Natalie to find out more about the role. Please be aware that any suggestions, questions or comments from parents can be brought to the Governing body either by speaking to Natalie the Head teacher or to one of the other Governors.

#### Chair of Governors

Jane Long

#### Vice Chair of Governors

Isabella Roberts

#### Other Governors

Tracey Garrett, Amy Long, Stacey Deinali, Christine Bates, Lindsey Johnson, Natalie Parkinson

### School Fund

In order to provide daily snacks for children, and to assist with the cost of play dough and baking ingredients, we ask for a weekly contribution of £1.

This should be brought to nursery on your child's first session of the week, or can be paid across a half term in one instalment. Please can we ask that this money is brought in an envelope with your child's name on, or if you prefer it can be paid through a bank transfer.

**Account number– 00008812**

**Sort code– 77-29-07**

Please add your child's name as the reference, along with SF for school fund.

Currently our funds are running very low.

### Names in clothing

Please can we ask that all children's clothes, bags, wellies and coats have their name in. As you will appreciate, it can be very difficult to find or return lost items if they are not labelled.

### School Holidays

Our school breaks up for the 2 week Easter holiday on **Friday 31st March**. We return to nursery on **Monday 17th April**. We hope that you all have a lovely break.

**Please see our attached calendar for other holiday and bank holidays**

### Teeth Cleaning

Over the next few weeks we are introducing teeth cleaning to children as part of our daily routine. Each child will have their own toothbrush and will be supervised by an adult.

Look out for some top tips and stories around oral hygiene that we will be sharing.



### Drop off and Pick up times

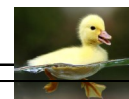
Please can we ask that children are dropped off as close to the session start time as possible. This ensures that they do not miss any valuable teaching and learning time. Could we ask all parents to collect their children on time at the end of the session, as this has an impact on staff and children's lunches and staff meetings. Pick up times are between 11.40am to 11.45am on a morning, and between 3.20pm and 3.30pm on an afternoon.



### Hatching Chicks and Ducks

In March we will be welcoming some feathery friends into the world. The children will be able to watch first hand as both chicks and ducks hatch. Together they will learn about the life cycle of these birds and find out how we care for them.

We will be adding photographs and videos to the Class Dojo and Facebook page and families will be able to join in with the experience when coming to nursery. This is a really exciting and special time in nursery and we ask that parents and families talk to their children about this experience, in order to support their learning.



### Nappy Changing and Toilet Training

For those children who are in nappies or pull up pants, please can we ask that you supply nappies, wipes and nappy bags. There are a lot of children who require changing at present and we are unable to subsidise the cost of these items.

If your child is toilet training currently, please can we ask that you put enough pants and changes of clothes into their bag. It may also be helpful to pop some alternative footwear in case these need to be changed too.

We have used a number of pairs of our wellies as spares for the children and some have not been returned. Our wellies are green with a yellow sole, or blue with a red sole. Please can we ask that you return wellies if you have a pair.

If you require support with toilet training, particularly those children who go to school in September, please speak to your child's Key Person.

### Farm Visit

We are looking to plan some visits to Tweddle Farm at Blackhall during the Summer Term.

The children in the 3-4 year old room will attend the farm with our staff and we are currently looking at arranging a farm animal experience to come in to nursery for our 2 year old children and their parents.



## A few helpful reminders.....

- Morning nursery sessions begin at 8.45am and finish at 11.45am, afternoon sessions begin at 12.30pm and finish at 3.30pm. Full day children attend between 8.45am and 3.30pm.
- Please ring and let us know as soon as possible if your child is going to be absent
- Inform us if someone different is picking up your child and give them the password
- Complete and return admissions forms and keep us informed if any details change
- Children who attend all day need a healthy packed lunch– please see our Packed Lunch Policy on our website (please add an ice pack as lunches can not be refrigerated)
- Please try to be on time for your child at pick up as they can become distressed and it can often affect staff lunches, breaks or worktime.
- Inform us of any new medical conditions or changes
- School fund is £1 per week. This can be paid weekly or through bank transfer. Please add your child's name as the reference if bank transferring
- Please pay for your care sessions on a weekly, or monthly basis. It is preferred that this is done through bank transfer, including your child's name as the reference.
- Bank details for transfers-     **Account number**– 00008812                     **Sort code**– 77-29-07
- Please label your child's belongings with their name
- Nappies, wipes and nappy bags need to be provided for children who require them. Spare clothes should be provided for children who are toilet training in case of accidents. It is also helpful to pop a spare pair of shoes in if you can.
- Sunscreen should be applied before your child attends nursery on warm days. Sunscreen should be provided for full day children, so it can be reapplied.
- If you would like any nursery jumpers, cardigans or coats, please come to the office. These can be paid for by cash or bank transfer. Jumpers £8, Cardigans £9, Coats £20
- Follow our Facebook page, sign up for Class Dojo and check our website
- Remember to check out the Learning Journals site/app for information on your child's learning. You can add stories and comments too
- Recommend our nursery to family and friends. Names can be added to our waiting list from birth

# MARCH 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Easter Raffle tickets on sale	14	15	16 Easter Raffle drawn	17 Mother's Day Gifts and cards to go home	18	19
20 Duck/chick hatching kits arrive	21	22	23	24 Duck/ chick stay and play for Red group parents (Letter to follow)	25	26
27 Duck/ chick stay and play for Blue group parents (Letter to follow)	28 Duck/ chick stay and play for Purple group parents (Letter to follow)	29 Duck/ chick stay and play for Green group & 2 year old parents (Letter to follow)	30 Ducks/chicks leave nursery	31 Last day before Easter holiday		

# APRIL 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Easter holiday					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Nursery re-opens	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## MAY 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 Bank Holiday	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Bank Holiday for Kings Coronation	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Last day for children	26 Staff training day	27	28
29	30	31				

## JUNE 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5 Nursery re-opens	6	7 Family Gardening Day- (letter to follow)	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Fathers Day gifts and cards to be sent home	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

# JULY 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 <b>AM- Leavers Celebration- only children leaving for Primary School will attend with parents</b> (children who will return to nursery in September will not attend on the morning)  <b>PM- Nursery Garden Party from 1pm- all children and families welcome.</b> (children must be accompanied by an adult)	21 Last day before Summer holidays	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
32	Nursery re-opens for returning children on Wednesday 6th September 2023					