

**Dates:**

**Harvest week - Week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> October**

**Open evening - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm-5.30pm**

**Parent consultations - Week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> October** (these take place within nursery hours. We will put a list of times available in the cloakroom for you to sign nearer the time).

**Half term - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

**Occasional day - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

**Nursery Christmas show - Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 11am**

**Last day of term - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 1.30pm**

**Christmas holidays - Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

**Applying for Reception places for Sept 2019**

Please remember that you need to apply for a place in our Reception class for September 2019. Attendance at Knebworth Nursery does not automatically ensure you a place in the main school. From 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018 you can apply online for your child's primary school place. You must submit an application by the national closing date 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Finally, don't forget to check the weekly newsletter on *parentmail* and if you have any queries please don't hesitate to ask a member of staff.

Mrs Clark

Mrs Williams

Mrs Bishop

# Knebworth

Primary & Nursery School



Termly Information  
Nursery

Autumn 2018

### Welcome

Welcome to all the new Nursery children and parents. The children are all settling in brilliantly. Over the next few weeks we will get to know each other well and explore all the different areas in Nursery. On Thursdays we have music with Mr Williams and will go down to the hall for PE with Miss Breckenridge. Please note children do not need a PE kit. This half term is all about settling in and learning to use the resources available to their full potential but there will also be time to explore other topics depending on the children's interests. Planning is very flexible and child centred.

Please note the following:

**Clothing** Your child has the opportunity to go outside every day during CIL (Child Initiated Learning). Children may choose to play indoors or outdoors or a mixture of both. Please make sure they have suitable clothing and help them to be as independent as possible with dressing, especially with putting on their own coats. Remember there is no unsuitable weather only unsuitable clothing! Also please supply a spare set of clothing, including underwear to be kept on your child's peg, preferably in a named drawstring bag. This is in case of accidents or simply getting too wet while playing with the water etc. Please **NAME ALL CLOTHING.**

**Arrival and pick up times** Nursery begins at 8.45am and the school gates will be open until 9.00am. If you arrive late at the school gate you may have to wait a little while but please be patient with the office staff who are busy at this time. If you are picking up your child at 11.45am or 2.45pm, we will bring the children to the office for you to collect. The school gates will be opened at 3.10pm to allow access for parents/carers to pick up children at 3.15pm directly from the Nursery. If somebody different is going to pick up your child please inform a member of staff in the morning and ensure the person collecting the child knows the safe word you have provided us with.

**Sickness** Please be aware that if your child is sick they need to stay at home for a full **48 hours** afterwards. Do not be tempted to send them back any earlier even if they seem well enough or are eager to return. Thank you.

**Junk modelling** We like to maintain a good supply of small cardboard boxes for junk modelling. No toilet roll middles though for health and safety reasons. Please put any other suitable boxes in the plastic box provided in the cloakroom. We also collect old birthday cards or other suitable pictures for cutting out and unused envelopes for using in our writing area.

**Letters and Sounds activities** Every week the children do 'Letters and Sounds' activities. These are an important part of our curriculum and are designed to develop the children's listening skills. Being 'tuned into' sounds helps with blending and segmenting which in turn supports early reading and writing. The 'Letters and Sounds' activities are taught in a fun and creative way and this half term we will be focusing on environmental sounds and musical sounds.

**Writing** At home please give your child opportunities to practise writing their name and give them lots of praise and encouragement. Remember that your child only needs a capital letter at the start of their name, the rest should be in lower case. If possible, write each letter correctly as this saves having to re learn the correct formation later on. If in doubt see the letter formation sheet in the cloakroom.

**Show and Tell** Friday will be our regular "Show and Tell" day when the children can bring in an item to show. As well as providing a valuable link from home, it helps the children gain confidence and begin to take an interest in others around them. We will use these times as an opportunity to develop the children's speaking and listening skills and to encourage them to ask questions. A Show and Tell rota will be on display in our cloakroom to check when it is your child's turn to bring something in.

**Brown Mouse and White Mouse** We have a Brown Mouse puppet and a White Mouse puppet in Nursery. White mouse is always worried and thinks he is no good at anything whereas Brown mouse is much more positive and always willing to give things a go even if they are a bit tricky. We will use these puppets to encourage a growth mindset. Throughout the year we tell stories about the mice and encourage the children to 'be like Brown Mouse and have a go' (e.g. putting their coat on by themselves).

**Champ certificates** These are awarded each week to children in Nursery who have done something extra special. It may be that they have been a really good friend or they have been especially helpful. They may have done something for the first time or perhaps they have tried really hard at something tricky. Their efforts and achievements are celebrated in our EYFS celebration assembly every Wednesday.

