

## Northside Foundation Stage

### Autumn Term '17

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a restful half term holiday. Winter is on its way and it is essential that ALL children wear a suitable warm coat even if you bring them by car. Hats, scarves and gloves may be worn but please make sure they are clearly named. The classrooms will be warm so the children do not have to wear lots of layers of clothing - a T-shirt and jumper is more than adequate.

We will cover lots of topics this half term including Halloween, fireworks, Hanukah, road safety and Christmas as well as activities centred on the children's interests. This half term the Nursery child led topic will be nursery rhymes and in Reception it will be about pirates. We welcome any input you feel you can give. If you would like to come in to read, cook or make crafts with the children please let Mrs Mulvihill or Mrs Hyland know.

Focus weeks have been arranged for both Nursery and Reception. Parents should look at the parents' board to note down when their focus meeting is. Reception parents should look at the times on the door the children exit from after school. If for any reason, the allotted dates are not convenient then please let us know as soon as possible.

Although your contributions are voluntary they are very important to the Early Years. We use the money to buy ingredients for play-dough and cookery etc. We ask you to give only £1 per week or £5 per half term. If you prefer, you can give a termly payment of £10. Please hand your voluntary contribution to a member of the Early Years team. Thank you.

This term, in Nursery and Reception, we will be sending home a class bear. This is to encourage children to complete either a Maths or Writing activity at home. Your child will take care of him for a few days, recording the different activities that they complete together in a class book. Your child will then have an opportunity to share the time spent at home with the bear, during a show and tell session at school.

As advised by the government, schools are now required to promote the following British Values:

- Tolerance
- The Rule of Law
- Democracy
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect

This half term we will look at Mutual Respect. The children will learn all about Tolerance through assemblies, in Literacy and will celebrate World Tolerance Day on 16th November.

## Nursery

The new children are settling in well. Thank you for taking the time to support your child during this difficult time. Please remember to encourage your child to choose a book regularly to enjoy with you at home and please ensure your child takes good care of the books, letting us know if any get damaged. They must put the books they take home into a book bag.

## Nursery Extended Days

You are all aware of the extended day your child is eligible for. These days have already started for some children and the new children will be able to start as soon as they are completely settled. If you wish to extend the timings of your child's long day to 9-3.15pm please speak to Mrs Mulvihill to arrange the day and payment. The extra 1 hour 15 minutes will cost £12.50 each week.

## Reception

The children are participating in PE activities and will need to be able to get changed by themselves or with minimum help. To help us, please try to encourage them to dress independently at home. **The children all have identical clothes which are mostly the same size. Staff cannot ensure garments are returned to the right children if items are not clearly named.** To make it easier for us, please make sure you have named *all* your child's clothes as soon as possible.

We have sent home sound books for children to practise writing the letters and sounds they have been learning during their phonic lessons. To help and support your child with their learning we would really appreciate if you could continue to ensure your child is using their sound book to support their learning at home as well as at school. Please ensure your child's sound book, reading book, library book and reading record book are kept in your child's book bag everyday.

Monday - We will change their library book

Thursday - We will collect their sound books in

Friday - You will receive their sound book with a new sound in

Monday to Friday - We will be reading with different children each day and changing their phonic book.

Thank you.

Tracey Hyland and Alicia

Lucy Mulvihill, Priti Dabasia, Jilpa Vasta and Yoshi Staker