

# Northside Foundation Stage

## Summer Term 2 '17

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after our half term holiday - we hope you had a good rest and feel refreshed to tackle our last half term of the year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the support you have given to us throughout the past year, ensuring a rich, stimulating and exciting learning environment for your children.

This term we will be starting a new topic on **growth**. We will be caring for and observing caterpillars, learning about animals and talking about the growth of humans. We will be looking at ultra sound photos, baby photos, looking at ourselves now and what they might look like when they are older. If you have baby photos or photos of the children's grandparents we would appreciate you sending them into school for the children to look at. The children will be looking at healthy eating, fruit and vegetables and will be doing activities based on books such as 'The Hungry Caterpillar', 'Oliver's fruit salad' and 'Jasper's Beanstalk'. We will be planting seeds and observing plants and flowers growing.

*If you feel you could offer any help around our topic please see Miss Thomas or Miss Hudson. Anything that is sent into school **must** be named so we can ensure it is returned to the right family.*

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 term we will look at The Rule of Law. The lessons will focus on understanding the importance of having laws and how they protect us, as well as influence our behaviour. We will also look at how laws are made in Parliament and the consequences of breaking rules and laws.

May we remind you that footwear does need to be *sensible* - so, when you are buying sandals for the summer, please make sure they are *not* slip-ons and do *not* have open-toes or high heels. Jelly sandals or crocs are not suitable footwear either! This may sound pedantic but we are concerned for your child's safety and, as they tend to run everywhere and love climbing, we want to make sure accidents are kept to a minimum.

The weather is still unpredictable so please make sure your child is suitably dressed - this may be raincoats or sunhats so please listen to the forecast! As children are taking jumpers off through the day, they can often get misplaced. Please make sure all items of clothing are named so that their jumpers can be identified.

### Contributions

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.

### Punctuality

Please ensure that you bring your child to school on time. It is very important that they do not miss the beginning of the first session to help them feel part of the class and understand what they will be learning about that day.

### Nursery times:

AM Nursery 9.00-11.30am PM Nursery 12.45-3.15pm

Reception times: 8.55 - 3.30pm

### Nursery

We are beginning to prepare the children for moving up into a Reception class, this includes making them more independent with supporting their own needs i.e. doing their own coats up and putting on and doing up their shoes. We are encouraging all children to write their name on any bits of work that they do, which you should also do at home. We are encouraging all children to form the letters in their name correctly. Please make sure you are not using capital letters to write their name, except for the initial letter which should always be a capital letter. We will also be spending time in our Reception class, and for those who are moving up to Northside's Reception, they will spend time with their new class teacher and teaching assistant.

### Reception

We will begin the transition process for the children moving up to Year 1. This includes having break times at the same time as the Key Stage 1 children, visiting their new classrooms and they will be spending time with their new teachers. Please continue to support your child with their sound books, reading, key words and recognising and understanding numbers in the environment.

The grey 'Maths challenge booklets' will continue throughout this half term with a new set of activities. Children should complete **one activity** of their choice each week or one activity from Mathletics. The folders and completed activities should be handed in every Wednesday and then folders will be returned on Fridays.

Thank you.

Rachel Thomas, Priti Dabasia, Jilpa Vasta and Yoshi Staker

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