

# **Nottingham Nursery School Newsletter**

## September 2016

# Welcome Back!

**Welcome** to all our returning and newly started families and children! We hope you have all had great summers and are making the most of the last glimpses of warm weather.

We have lots of lovely things planned for the coming year and this newsletter is where you will find out all about what we have been doing as well as information about school and any upcoming events. If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to let us know.

### Welcome to new pupils

We have welcomed lots of new children and families to our school over the last couple of

weeks and we will be pleased to welcome even more over the coming weeks. It can be an emotional time for families when children start school so please let us know if you are unsure about anything. All staff will be more than happy to help.



### **Big Toddle**



We will be taking part in the Barnados 'Big Toddle' on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September so, if you can, please dress your children in something purple. The children will have chance to make

masks and head-dresses and go on a toddle around the nursery. We will also be holding a fund-raising cake-stall in reception so bring along some pennies if you would like to get some treats for tea!!

### Forest Garden – new timetable

This term we are trialling a new timetable for accessing our Forest Garden so that all children have the opportunity to explore there once per week, rather than once per month.

Our full-time children will go in the morning, straight after they have been dropped off and

we would really welcome your help with getting them ready into their waterproof suits and wellies on their allocated day. They will be taking turns as follows:

- Tuesday Kangaroos
- Wednesday Rainbows
- Thursday Elephants

### Food in School

Just a quick reminder of our school rule that children should not bring food into school unless it is handed in as part of how we celebrate birthdays. All children have access to drinks of milk or water and a snack morning and/

or afternoon. The snack consists of fruit and something carbohydrate based so you can be certain that your



children will not go hungry during the time they are here.

### Makaton



On our INSET days in September, all staff were trained in Makaton, which is a sign and symbol system which can be used to support language development. There is lots of research to show that using signs and symbols alongside

speech really helps to support language development. In future newsletters, look out for our signs of the month so that you can join in with your children at home.

### **Chatter Matters**



We will be running a 10 week course for some children and their parents called Chatter Matters which will aim to improve your child's communication and language skills through play, singing, stories, crafts and focus activities. It should be a lot of fun for you and your child; look out for letters about this in the Autumn Term.

### **Parent governors**

We would like to welcome Joanne Gerrard to our governing body. It was great to see Joanne at our first meeting of the school year!

However, we still have parent governor vacancies so if anyone is interested (past or present parents welcome), please do come and have a chat, or send an email to reception@nurservschool.nottinaham.sch.uk to discuss what the role entails.

### **Dinner Monies**

Please be aware that unless you know you are entitled to free school meals, you must pay for your child's school dinners. The cost is £8.75 per week. If you think you may be entitled to free meals, please speak to Joanne on reception.

### Dates for your Diary

Rosh Hashanah Celebration 30th Sept 2016 Half Term Last Day before Christmas First Day back in January INSET days this year

17<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Oct 2016 20th Dec 2016 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan, 2<sup>nd</sup> May & 26<sup>th</sup> July

### **New Hen House**

You will be pleased to know that all of the money raised from the school fayre has been put to good use over the summer. Our site manager John and our Early Years Practitioners Amanda and Maggie have been very busy re-vamping our allotment area and refurbishing the hen house. The children now have an area where they can plant seedlings in the winter months, ready to plant out in the spring. The hens have a luxury run with lots more space to run around and for the children to go in with them if they want to. The final stage of this plan is to create a small enclosed den area next to the store shed which will be a very cosy space for children to play. Thank you so much to everyone who came to the fayre or contributed in any way - what a fantastic team effort!!



