



# Newsletter

## 26th January 2021

### Headteacher Update!

Well firstly I'd like to say a big WELLDONE to all of you!!!! You have survived 21 days of another lockdown . Whatever your personal circumstances, we know its tough ! I can write this as a head teacher and as a parent, we are all suffering one way or another . The short days and wet and cold weather really isn't helping either. Please remember you are not alone, lets support each other and ride the storm together, even if that is remotely !

**Congratulate yourself for all you have and continue to achieve . We are all living through a pandemic and doing the best we can. Our best, whatever that is, is good enough!**

We continue to open to those children who require a place , we understand parents have different reasons for needing their child at nursery. If you are at home , we hope the remote learning ( more details below) is having a positive impact . As always ,I stress the remote learning ideas are optional and they are there to guide and inspire. The most important thing is to have fun and play with your child, when you can. This may be all day or it may be 30 minutes when you can squeeze the time between working, making lunch and supporting other children in the house. Its okay, whatever your best is, that's okay and that's good enough. Please always remember that and never feel pressured to complete everything we send.

Myself, Louise, Natalie and our Family Support Worker are here to help you with any emotional support you may need as well as a range of other support including food parcels, debt / benefits, behaviour management, mental health .....the list is endless. Please ring us if we can help, we are in this together .



same storm:

{very} different boats

We cannot assume anyone has the same situation we do...

WHILE WE ARE ALL EXPERIENCING THE

SAME STORM:

WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT.

### Remote Learning

There are a number of reasons why children may not be accessing nursery at the moment and in the future . We have set up a range of supportive learning for you to access. If you have problems with IT and internet and / or accessing Tapestry please ring the school and we will find away to help.

**Learning Packs** are provided every Monday and provide 5 activity ideas that you can do at home with your child. The pack also contains useful resources to help implement the ideas at home. If o are unable to collect your pack please contact the school and we will arrange delivery. If you do not want a pack please contact the school to let us know so we don't make too many each week.

**Tapestry** every week your child's key person will send home ideas to support your child's individual level of development. This will be sent via your Tapestry account. Please feel free to feedback and send any photographs so we can celebrate your child's achievements at home.

**YouTube** we have our very own YouTube account, just type in the name of the nursery school and you will find us. Staff have recorded stories, songs and group activities. We hope your child enjoys watching them.

**School website** we have a range of other activity ideas on our school website as well as our " 14 Day Isolation challenge " we know the isolation period has changed form 14 to 10 days but maybe you could chose your top 10 or even do them all.

**Links to websites** BBC Tiny Happy People:<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people> Hungry Little Minds:<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk> Topmarks: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk> National Literacy Trust <https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/?phase=early-years> Phonics Play: <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk> Physical Activities: <https://activeforlife.com/49-fun-physical-activities-to-do-with-kids-aged-2-to-4/> Cbeebies:<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies> 10 minute Daily Shake Up Activities <https://www.nhs.uk/10-minute-shake-up/shake-ups>

Attached is our school Remote Learning Plan with more information. In the following weeks we will be sending our a short questionnaire regarding remote learning and using your feedback to improve further.

### COVID-19 thank you for all your continued support with COVID-19 measures in nursery.

Please note if a member of the household displays COVID19 symptoms, it is advised they take a test. All members of the household must isolate until the test result has returned.

If your child or a member of your household requires a Covid-19 test, please let us know at the earliest opportunity. We can help you book a test on line, if necessary. It also helps us to prepare for the possibility of a positive test result and who this may impact. **When test results are returned please could I ask you email me at your earliest convenience; head@dukestreet-nur.lancs.sch.uk even if this is during the weekend or a school holiday.** This will enable us to ensure we work with the necessary services to identify any close contacts within nursery and inform those who this may impact.

### Staffing changes

**Holly Raw—Teacher**, returned from maternity leave at the end of November. After a great deal of thought and consideration Holly has decided to take a break in her teaching career to look after her beautiful daughter at home. Due to low numbers on roll at Highfield we will not be replacing Holly at this point.

**Nasreen, Teaching Student** will finish her placement with us and leave on Friday 5 February. Thank you to Nasreen for all of her hard work during her time with us and we wish her the best of luck on her next placement.

**Claire Denby, Family Support Worker** will be leaving us in February. We are very sad to say goodbye to her but wish her well in her new adventure a local Primary school. A huge thank you to Claire for all her hard work. Rachel Baines will be filling her position, you can contact Rachel via the school or on the following number 0793301097. Rachel is an experienced Family Support Worker who I know will continue our outstanding level of care and support.

**Weather Change** We love getting outside to learn no matter what the weather is ! With the weather getting colder we would like to ask all parents to please ensure that children come to nursery in warm winter coats, wellies if we haven't already got them on site and hats and gloves when necessary. Please remember to put your child's name in all their clothes including hats , gloves and shoes.



**We need your help .....** We still have places available for Easter and September , for both 2 and 3-4 year olds, please spread the word and tell your friends and the community how great we are ! Even if parents are apprehensive about sending their child to nursery during the pandemic they can still put their child's name down and we will reserve them a place and send home remote learning ideas and packs. Please promote us through Facebook , share and like our posts as well as word of mouth.



**30 hour childcare**—if your child turns 3 before 31/03/2021; and you believe that you may be eligible for 30 hours childcare from Summer Term 2020 please go online and check [childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://childcarechoices.gov.uk) and do an online eligibility check. If you are eligible; you will be given an 11 digit code with valid from and to dates. If this applies to you and you want 30 hours as of Summer 2021 please let a member of the office staff know ASAP.

To all parents who currently have 30 hour codes; **please ensure that your code is valid and you regularly re-confirm it.** Any breaks in the code validity over any period of the term, will pull into question your child's eligibility for the 30 hours childcare.

**Fees**—A polite reminder that all fees for this half term are due no later than Friday 27 January 2021. If you have any queries about your invoice please contact [bursar@highfield-nur.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@highfield-nur.lancs.sch.uk)