

Newsletter

March 2021

Headteacher Update!

A big 'Hello' to all our families, whether you are accessing learning in nursery or at home through remote experiences we are providing. Wherever you are and whatever you are doing, we hope you are well and getting through these difficult days and weeks. I am sure you are all aware of the developing situation with various variants of Covid 19 circulating. Firstly, to stress that Public Health advice hasn't changed, and you should continue to follow the current National Lock Down advice and stay at home if you can, and of course follow the Hands, Face, Space message when you can't stay at home. We continue to follow and review our Covid Risk Assessments as we have done so well throughout this pandemic. There is no change in guidance in relation to the symptoms of Covid, however, if your child is unwell then please keep them at home. I must stress there is no evidence that new variants cause any more illness though it is more transmissible. I understand that this is a worrying time for everyone, but I am confident that by working together and following the advice we will continue to keep our school communities as safe as possible. Please can I thank those families who have chosen to keep their child at home, it is supporting us to provide a safe environment for those who are accessing, some of which are children of critical workers. I would like to assure you we are reviewing our risk assessment weekly, taking on board local and national data as well as cases within the nursery. We want all children back in nursery as soon as possible. At present local rates and hospital admissions are still very high. We will ensure good communication when this changes.



Remote learning

We hope your child is enjoying the range of remote learning we are providing. We have a range of experiences provided from our website, Tapestry, our Facebook and YouTube sites. We ask you complete our short questionnaire to tell us what you think, works working well and what else would you like to see, are there any barriers to you assessing remote learning? We want to know so we can improve our service to you and your child. This link gives step by step instruction to insert an observation on Tapestry from home...Tapestry: <https://youtu.be/espJ96TJHV8>



What's going on at nursery

4th March World Book Day More information to follow.

W/C 15th March—National Neuro Diversity Week; let's celebrate what makes us all unique and different!

19th March Red Nose Day more information to follow,

29th March Hindu Festival of colour more information to follow.



We know life is very hard for everyone at the moment, we truly wish it wasn't. We are all riding the storm but we are in different boats. Although we can't change the situation with the pandemic, we can help and support in a number of ways. Parents' are reporting children's behaviour to have deteriorated in many households, please ring and message us if you would like some 1-1 support. We have access to a range of services who help with food hampers and debt management. We work closely with many charities and services who support emotional health of children and parents. Alongside our experienced senior leadership team we have a new family support worker, we can all help in a range of ways, so please do get in touch. You are not alone.

Exciting news

We will shortly be setting up an Instagram account for each school. Where we will share lots of exciting experiences and photographs. More details will be posted on our Facebook page and text to you, once it is up and running.



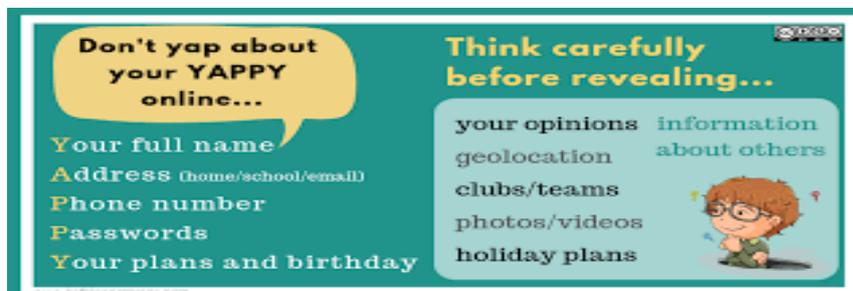
30 hour childcare—if your child turns 3 before 31/03/2021; and you believe that you may be eligible for 30 hours childcare from Summer Term 2021 please go online and check childcarechoices.gov.uk and do an online eligibility check. If you are eligible; you will be given an 11 digit code with valid from 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.

Safer Internet Day

With remote learning happening in so many houses, there has never been a more important time to ensure your child is safe when they are on line.

9th February 2021 was Safer Internet day, follow the link to find some really useful top tips to ensure your child is safe

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>



Confirmed COVID-19 cases over half term holidays

If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms over the half term holidays, please get your child tested. If the results are positive and your child has been in nursery 48 hours prior to the symptoms developing please let me know at your earliest convenience as I will need to complete all necessary reporting procedures and ensure any close contacts in nursery isolate accordingly.

head@dukestreet-nur.lancs.sch.uk or ring 07496986201

Staffing update

Holly Raw, Teacher at Highfield Nursery School will be leaving us on Friday 12th February. Holly is taking some time out of teaching to focus on caring for her beautiful daughter Mya . We wish her well for the future.

Nasreen our teaching student at Highfield Nursery school has been a fantastic asset to the nursery over the last few months , she has been an outstanding student who will be missed by staff and children. We thank Nasreen for all her hard work and wish her well for the rest of her teaching carer. Nasreen is hoping to say goodbye to her group of children after their isolation period .

Rachel Baines has joined the federation as Family Support Worker working with families across both schools. Rachel is very experienced with supporting a range of areas including parenting and child and adult emotional wellbeing.

Please help

Parents' appear to be hesitant to put their child's name down at nursery due to the pandemic. This has led to very low numbers on our waiting list for next year. This is of a concern and will have huge implications for our funding. Please help us by telling your friends and the community how nursery has helped your child make important progress and what a fabulous team we have. Please like and share our Facebook posts in as many forms as you can, this will help us to share the wonderful experiences we create for children at nursery.



Address: Wright Street, Chorley, PR6 0SL **Tel:** 01257 262556

Email: admin@highfield-nur.lancs.sch.uk

Please look out for the next newsletter which will come out in March 2021