



NEWSLETTER

Term dates- We will finish this term, before Easter on **Thursday 29th March 2018 at 12.00 Noon**. There **will be NO** after school club that day. We return to business as usual on Monday 16th April 2018.

Staffing- We were thrilled to have Laura Halsall return to our employment last month. For those of you who don't already know Laura, she was our first apprentice several years ago. She left us to broaden her experiences. She works across all areas of our provision and is a preschool key person.

We are equally gutted to announce that Zoe Fredericks will be leaving us at Easter. Zoe has been with us for a few years, firstly as a Forest School Leader, and then as a key person as well as Forest School Leader. She is moving on to pastures new and starting her own business. We obviously wish her all the best for the future and I know Zoe will miss all the families she has supported over her time with us. Laura will be taking over Zoe's key children so over the next few weeks, they will be working together to enable Laura to get to know the children.

Preschool

Junk modelling- As many of you know we get through a great deal of junk modelling across all the clubs, so we would be grateful if you could collect and bring in interesting boxes and packaging, to enable all the children to participate!

Curiosity and Provocations- We are always looking for real objects to share with the children to engage them in their curiosities. Interesting Objects are great to stimulate conversations and start new interests for the children to investigate with staff. This term we have introduced a microscope, an old telephone (with a dial), a giant calculator and I have just bought a very old but working typewriter. These objects very quickly become favourites. If anyone has anything they are throwing out or willing to share with us, please let us know. We really like to have real objects and after introducing china plates etc in the role play area the children's play changed and became more engaged. It does mean we get breakages, though the children learn this is what happens if you drop it.



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Outdoor Explorers- In a similar way the opportunities for conversation, instigated by the children, when out and about are amazing!! This term the group have been visiting Libraries, book shops, and the food bank, followed by hot chocolate courtesy of Tap Social. On our outings we have met both people we know, other children's parents and relatives. If anyone has any suggestions of places we could come to visit that are nearby, or reachable by bus, we would love to bring a small group to visit. Or if you have something a skill or interest that you would like to come and share with us, we would love that too.

Salt Box Music- We are very sad to say that Michelle from Salt box is hanging up her instruments and will cease to run Salt Box Music. We are currently investigating other sources of musical sessions to support and inspire our Children. Watch this space.

An allotment- Exciting news... we have been offered the shared use of an allotment (very nearby) and I will be visiting it next week to assess what needs to be done to get it in a position to plant some vegetables. Last year we had a very successful planting/ growing project where by all the children bought in a plant they had selected or helped to grow at home. I would love this to happen again but on a larger scale, though we are going to need some help!! I am looking for volunteers, if you feel like a digging session (Free Work out) please let me know. I will ask again once I have assessed the allotment with a date for a working party!!

Garden Redevelopment- I can confirm this is going ahead this summer! We have signed off the design, booked the contractors and paid the deposit.

Preschooler's belongings-

Please make sure everything is labelled including lunch boxes!!

Please can you check your child's belongings to ensure there are enough things for changes (including shoes) during the day. Please make sure they have warm coats, hats, gloves etc. and suitable footwear, for the time of year.

Nut-free- Please note we are a nut-free setting, as is the school. If you are providing packed lunches **please make sure you cut up grapes and cherry tomatoes, and ensure you are providing an appropriate amount for young children (not too much, as some children are getting too anxious, with the amount of food!)**



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Nappies- Please provide nappies/ wipes and cream if your child is at this stage and discuss toilet training with your key person, when required. It is important we are consistent to help children with this important aspect of their development,

Breakfast club- If you have a child that is just attending preschool sessions starting at 9.00am, please note we cannot let them come into until the sessions start time at 9.00 due to ratios. Some parents with preschoolers pay for breakfast club, therefore they may appear to be dropping off early however in reality they are arriving late for breakfast club, not early for preschool!

Collection- If you need to speak to your key person at collection, could you please come into the preschool, rather than at the door. With the numbers of families, we have it is difficult for staff to manage this hand over of children when there are conversations taking place in the doorway.

Afterschool Club- If your child attends a club after school, or is going to miss a session or be attending another club, please let us know. It saves staff time, by **not** having to look for a child, or ring you at home/ work to see where they are. This can delay activities starting as it affects staff ratios to cover all areas

If you have any concerns or would like to discuss anything further please feel free to contact me.

Ruth Vaughan

Setting Manager

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SWAP SHOP



NORTH HINKSEY PRE-SCHOOL
SATURDAY 10TH
MARCH 7-9:30PM



Step 1 Gather up your unwanted clothes, shoes and accessories. Must be in a good condition!

Step 2 Count your items. 13 items of clothing, 3 pairs of shoes, and 10 accessories.

Step 3 Drop off your donations Monday-Friday 5th-9th March to Jo or Eloise
northhinkseyearlynewsale@gmail.com

Step 4 On the night browse the Swap Shop to create a whole new wardrobe! You take whatever you can carry!



NAILS £5 FOR COLOUR POLISH



TICKETS £8 IN ADVANCE
(£10 ON THE NIGHT)
(INCLUDES A GLASS OF FIZZ OR A SOFT DRINK AND SOME NIBBLES)