



Newsletter

February 2024



Teaching and Learning

Welcome back, we hope that you enjoyed your February half term break. We have lots of exciting things planned for this half term, all of which are detailed in this publication.

We will be sending out your child's assessment data via EYLog and have dates scheduled for communication calls. We have decided to maintain the present system of these being undertaken via the telephone rather than in person as your feedback is that it is proving more convenient. There will be sign up sheets outside each classroom, but for you to plan ahead the dates are Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 20th March between 3.30 and 6.00pm. If this is not convenient for you please let us know and we would appreciate if you could adhere to the time slot as we have limited time and lots of parents to speak to. If you'd like another time to discuss anything in further detail, please email office@hirstwoodnsc.co.uk and we will make the necessary arrangements.

Wednesday 28th February

HALE are visiting to promote their "Warm homes and healthy people" project at 08.45. They will be in the Gallery with lots of free information and independent energy advice for those living in the Bradford District area. The main aims are to save you money and keep you warm. They can install small energy efficiency measures and offer support and advice on energy bills. We also provide emergency support and help you with debt and benefits checks. Here's a link for more information

<https://haleproject.org.uk/living-well/warm-homes-healthy-people/>

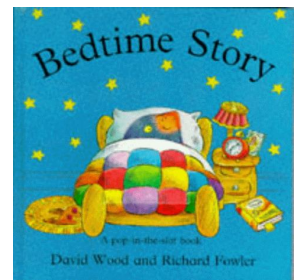


World book day Wednesday 6th March

We will be sending home little books for you and your child to design the front cover to return back to School to share with their peers. How about creating a reading area at home to share your favourite books – please send us photographs of you reading together, either via EYLog or email to office@hirstwoodnscc.co.uk. We will be having a **DEAR** day, **D**rop **E**verything **A**nd **R**ead. Each child will receive a £1 book token that you can redeem at most book shops (check their pigeon hole for your token).

Bedtime story session – Wednesday 6th March from 3.30 to 4.15

On World Book Day we will be hosting a bedtime story session with hot chocolate and marshmallows. Please email office@hirstwoodnscc.co.uk if you'd like to attend.



Here's a brief list of books that we'd recommend for children aged 3 to 4 years:



A Bit Lost / Baby Goes to Market / The Gigantic Turnip / The Gruffalo / Jasper's Beanstalk / Little Rabbit Foo Foo / Not Now Bernard / Oliver's Vegetables / Owl Babies / Peace At Last / Rosie's Walk / Run away Chapati / So Much / The Tiger Who Came to tea / The Very Hungry Caterpillar / We're going on a bear hunt / Where's My Teddy / Where The Wild Things Are. Traditional tales such as Goldilocks, Jack and the beanstalk are also extremely valuable

Don't forget that we also have our Adults Lending Library in the main corridor – feel free to borrow a book and perhaps donate some that you have read.

**“The best classroom and the richest cupboard is roofed only by the sky”
Margaret McMillan**

Our outdoor play area is open daily throughout the year - whatever the weather, wellies and waterproofs are provided. Outdoor play and outdoor learning are the cornerstones of our curriculum. From our ‘mud kitchen’ to our Forest School and gardening club, the great outdoors plays an integral part in the learning and development of all the children who come through our doors. When children engage with nature they learn to respect the natural environment and realise their relationship with it. Different sensory experiences allow them to make and form connections, not just with nature, but with their own emotions too. Providing children with an element of risk aids in their development allowing them to make better judgement calls in later life. Every space is full of intrigue and gives the children the freedom and space they need to explore and go on their own adventures.

We challenge children to explore their own physical limits, and make their own risk assessments which are developmentally appropriate preparations for them when they push their physical boundaries later in life. Every day there will be a different learning provocation set up, a world of wonder and investigation awaits. Play comes naturally and spontaneously to children. We are very lucky that our children have access to plenty of space and time to play both outdoors and indoors. The range of different areas in our outdoor space is a place where children feel confident, are willing to try things out and know that their effort is acknowledged and valued. Being outdoors offers opportunities to do things in different ways and on different scales than when indoors. Our outdoor environment offers children freedom to explore, use their senses, be physically active and exuberant within a safe and well-resourced provision.



“We are explorers” week commencing 11th March

Our themed week provide a different and exciting context for introducing new experiences. We will be looking at journeys, maps, where children have travelled and how they got there.

Red nose day Friday 15th March

Please come to school wearing red. There will be lots of fun activities and all donations are welcomed for this good cause.



Oral Health week commencing 18th March



We will be sharing lots of information about how to keep teeth and gums healthy. Children will have opportunity to practice their brushing skills with our sets of large teeth and toothbrushes. If you are struggling to find a Dentist, please use this link <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist>

Primary School Allocations

You should receive notification of your Primary School allocation on 16th April 2024. If anyone is unhappy with their allocation, we are happy to support with advice and guidance about the Appeal Process. We look forward to working with your child's new School to support a positive transition.

Polite reminder

School finishes at 3.15. We do have Sunshine Club available until 5.45 if you require after school provision. We often have meetings after School so it is important that colleagues are released to attend these, therefore please could we suggest that if you have children attending another Primary School, that you collect your child from Hirst Wood first as we have lots of children waiting until 3.30 – thank you for your understanding.

Snack donations are much appreciated as School covers this cost. Dinner money can be paid weekly, monthly, half termly – to suit you, via ParentPay directly to Bradford Council.

We have a training day on Friday 22nd March so School closes Thursday 21st. We reopen Monday 8th April. Happy holidays!

