



Newsletter Newsletter



June 2025

Teaching and Learning

Welcome back, we hope that everyone enjoyed a relaxing Spring Bank break.

We are starting to work with the Primary Schools who will be welcoming your children in September. We have already had some visits and individual schools should be contacting you about what other transitional arrangements they are offering such as stay and play, stay for lunch, open evenings. The receiving schools will also be provided with a copy of your child's leavers report and their final assessment data. All these documents will, of course, be shared with you towards the end of next term. We will also have some special celebrations planned for children in school as some of them prepare to move on to the next part of their educational journey. We have two picnics planned for all children on Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th July - we have booked the sunshine so will hopefully eat all together outside.

We are also hosting a Graduation event (for leaving children and their families) on Friday 18th July from 3.30 to 4.30. We will be sending out invitations with more details nearer the time but please save the date. This will be completely informal where we will celebrate each child's journey with some cake and music in the garden.

For those children who are leaving us, please see the link below about what we feel are important in terms of 'school readiness'. This is formed on a whole child approach and covers predominantly the personal, social and emotional skills that will support children as they move to a new setting. Some children suffer from increased anxiety when there is lots of talk about transitions, it may be worth considering how soon you start to talk to your child about moving school.

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/spotlight-on/being-school-ready/>

For children who are returning in September we will be offering 10-minute communication call appointment to discuss your child's latest assessment profile and how we can work together to ensure that they are happy and making progress. The date is Wednesday 9th July between 3.30 and 5.50pm. There are sign-up sheets outside each classroom, however if you are unable to make any of these times, please email office@hirstwoodnscc.co.uk.

Sponsored sing-along raised £390. Thank you for your support, it is genuinely appreciated.



BRADFORD 2025
UK City of Culture

Wednesday 2nd July 1.15 to 2.45

we are hosting a Hirst Wood Heritage garden party. We are lucky enough to have been supported by Shipley Area Committee with some funding to enjoy a community event with Dohl drumming, mehndi and food. Please RSVP to office@hirstwoodnsc.co.uk if you would like to join us.

This will also be an opportunity to wish Sam Renwick (Assistant Headteacher) good luck as she retires in July. Sam has been a fantastic asset to Hirst Wood Nursery School and we thank her for her hard work, unwavering commitment and making a huge difference to the education of your children. She will be very much missed but we wish her well in the next chapter of her life. We have a collection in reception if anyone would like to donate towards a leaving gift.

What is the curriculum?

The curriculum is everything we want the children to experience and learn whilst they are in nursery. Learning includes new words, new skills and new knowledge. Experiences include trips out of nursery, times when we invite people in, like the balance bikes or the Life Caravan. We also have special extra experiences in School such as the caterpillars this half term and our regular themed weeks.

Children learn a great deal of our curriculum through play and activities of their own choosing. They also learn through our careful selection of books and rhymes of the week that we highlight on our short-term weekly planning.

How do young children learn? How do we teach young children?

We have lots of evidence about how young children learn. Here are some of the key points:

- **Language:** chatting, playing and reading with children every day helps them learn lots of new words. Language is the foundation of children's thinking. Children who are good communicators at five are most likely to be successful learners throughout their time in school.
- **Relationships:** it is very important for children to feel safe and secure. That's why every child has a key person within the staff team. Children become more independent when they have strong and loving relationships to fall back on. They also become better at developing emotional resilience when they find something hard, or get upset, angry or frustrated.

- Independent play: children need uninterrupted time to choose their own play and make friends. Adults will often get involved, in a sensitive way, to help the children to learn whilst they are playing. Adults will think about the important knowledge children need and how they can learn this whilst they are playing.
- Adult-guided play: children also need times when adults plan and guide their play. A play activity might be guided so it has a clear focus on learning to count, for example.
- Direct teaching: sometimes adults work directly with children to support the acquisition of new skills / concepts; this could include learning to use scissors, or ride a bike, or writing some of the letters of their name.

How can parents support children's learning?

Our partnership with parents is an integral part of our ethos. You know so much about your child and your ongoing support and encouragement will make a big difference to their learning. We regularly share photographs, videos and ideas for home learning via EYLog and our parental handouts of our enrichment groups and would ask that you reciprocate. You can get some more ideas from this website covering various topics

<https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/baby/learning-to-talk/3-to-5-years/>

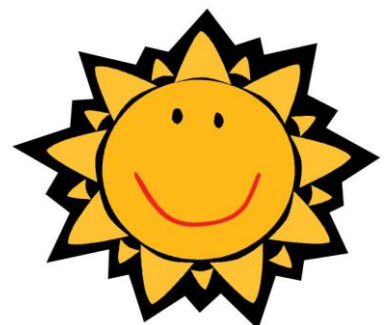
Keeping safe on line

Roblox, the popular Minecraft 'style' game has announced a new raft of parental controls. The website which ranks among the most popular games for children in the e-space, has previously been accused of possessing weak child protection tools. The new features have been adopted to allow parents to take control of their children's game time in a more comprehensive manner. Parents will now be able to block individuals who communicate with their children, as well as have more detailed oversight over their usage of the programme. If interested, the South-West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) has produced a comprehensive run down of these changes. Please follow the link below for more:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/roblox-launches-new-parental-controls/>

Additional sessions & Sunshine for September '25

If you are returning, or transitioning to Saltaire Primary School please let us know your requirements for additional sessions, and before and after School club please. We are in the process of place allocation. Thank you





Your views are important to us; therefore, if you could spare a couple of minutes to complete a brief questionnaire about Hirst Wood on Survey Monkey via this link, we would very much like to hear from you and thank you in advance.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3RHRRKB>

Remember, remember - dates for your diary

Child safety week

2nd to 8th June

Hirst Wood Heritage garden party

Wednesday 2nd July 1.15 to 1.45

Picnics

Tuesday 15th and Thursday 17th July

Wednesday 16th July

Ian's mobile farm visit (outside in the car park)

Friday 18th July (for leaving children only)

3.30 – 4.30 Graduation ceremony – invitations will be circulated

We close for Summer break on Tuesday 22nd July

We hope that you all enjoy a restful summer.

For families returning in September we have two training days Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd,
School reopens to returning children on Wednesday 3rd September



Thank you for choosing to be part of our school community