

## HALLOWEEN

Unfortunately, we are unable to host our very popular annual Halloween disco this year, due to the Coronavirus pandemic. This is usually our main Autumn fundraiser, successfully raising approximately £650 from ticket sales, a raffle and refreshments. However, we are planning some Halloween activities and are happy for children to dress up for a small contribution of £1 on the day, which will go into our Nature School pot to renovate the Park Keeper's Cottage.

## PROGRESS SUMMARY: SETTLING IN AT NURSERY

After half term, we will be sending home a very brief progress summary written by your key person about how your child has settled at nursery. Please read and sign it before returning it to school. We would also welcome your thoughts and comments about how you feel your child is doing at nursery, so please feel free to write on the back of the form.

## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographer will not be able to come to school to take the children's photos in the usual way. However, they could come and take one socially distanced photograph of your child standing against a coloured background. I have asked if the photographer could take a photo of each child playing in nursery. This could be when they are painting, moulding clay, baking, reading, building in the block area, digging in the sand, climbing or leaping, etc. **Please let your key person know which you would prefer, and we will go with the majority?** Please choose from; a simple standing pose, looking at the camera, or one taken whilst playing in nursery – inside/outside.

## CHRISTMAS

We usually take the children to the theatre on a coach to see a special show for under 5's, but naturally, we won't be able to do this. So, we have booked for a theatre company to come to us! The show is called 'The Littlest Christmas Elf'. Neither will we be able to do our usual Christmas Concert, where families are invited to come and watch the children tell the story of baby Jesus born in a stable. However, we will be able to have Christmas Dinner and Christmas Parties. We will make it as special as we can.

## REMINDERS;

- **Applying for your child's place in Primary school** – online deadline for applications is 15Jan 2021
- **School Absence** – if your child is off school, [you must let us know](#) from day one. Please ring school on 01429 838206
- **Snack money is payable through Parent Pay** – please make sure you have downloaded it to your phone and your payments are up to date
- **Names in clothes** - please ensure your child's name is in everything, especially their coat and please ensure all belongings are taken home with you [every day](#)
- **School Bags** – please send your child's school bag with a change of clothes in [every single day](#) and take it home [every single day](#)
- **Parking** – please **DO NOT** park or pull up on the double yellow lines outside Nursery, or on Partridge Terrace, as this little street is very tight. We need to respect our neighbours

## YOUR HALF TERM CALENDAR

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
2 nov <b>Back to school</b>	3	4	5	6
9	10 4.30pm Governors Meeting	11	12	13 <b>Children in Need Day</b> details to follow
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27 <b>School Photographs</b>
30	1 dec	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16 <b>Theatre Show and Christmas dinner</b>	17	18 <b>Christmas Parties</b>  <b>Break up</b>

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

We break up for half term on Friday 23 October and reopen on Monday 2 November 2020.

We break up for Christmas on Friday 18 December and reopen on Wednesday 6 January 2021

## NATURE DAYS

I am absolutely thrilled with the positive way all families have approached the nature days at the allotment. We had such rainy weather last week, yet everyone had the time of their lives and really enjoyed it, regardless of the weather. The explorations were varied across the five family groups. The main findings were mud, caterpillars, horse chestnut trees, acorns, conkers, birds and fungi.

## LAB DAYS

As you know, the Day in Nature is followed up by a Day in the Lab, where together, we are introducing the children to BIG THINKING. Together, children and adults talk about the day before, sharing what they discovered and what they remember. This brainstorming session enables us to think about what we already know about nature and the things we'd like to know more about. And so, the day in the lab gives us opportunities to research and make new discoveries about the amazing world around us. It will, as time goes by, give us chance to discuss, debate, and make decisions about how we can proactively protect nature and the planet.

## MINI LEADERSHIP TEAM

All the children have been invited to nominate themselves to join my Leadership Team and become a 'mini leader'. This involved them standing up in a large group and saying why they thought they'd be a good leader. We had some fantastic responses from those who wanted to speak and so very soon, a few will be appointed and given a leadership badge to proudly wear in school every day. It will mean they come to meetings with me to discuss plans and ideas and help make decisions for the school.

## PLANET AMBASSADORS

Climate change and saving the planet is something we have been committed to for a long time. We have joined WWF and work hard to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Very soon, we will be inviting children who are interested in animals, to become Planet Ambassadors to help raise the awareness of climate change and protect the animals who are in danger of becoming extinct.

## WILDLIFE RANGERS

The more we learn about bugs, minibeasts and other creatures from the wilderness in nature, the more likely we will be to appreciate and care for it. We are planning to create a group of 'wildlife rangers' who will become advocates of nature.

# Wingate Community Nursery School

## Newsletter

Autumn 2020



### Dear parents, grandparents, friends and families

I am really pleased to say that all our children are beginning to settle into life at nursery. They are making new friends, finding their way around this big, exciting place, getting the feel of the routines, and belonging to their own little "family groups". It's been great for us to get to know you too - What a great start!

### OUR FOCUS THIS TERM

Our main focus during these early weeks is all about developing children's confidence, independence, self-esteem and social skills, as we introduce them to new friends and new experiences on offer in nursery, teaching new language, skills and concepts, so that they have the necessary tools to be creative and imaginative and be a confident, possibility thinker.

In addition to this, we will also be focussing on Autumn, looking at the beautiful leaves, conkers, acorns and other treasures we find in the garden, our allotment and the woods. We will also be planting bulbs very soon with the children, ready for Spring.

Happy first term to you all, with very best wishes  
Becky © on behalf of the Nursery staff team