



# DEAR PARENTS

W/C : 10/9/17

## Dear Parents,

Each week you will find our **Dear Parents letter** on our indoor and outdoor noticeboard and also under the Nursery tab on the website at [polegateschool.co.uk](http://polegateschool.co.uk).

We also send our letters by email, via the school office, so please let us know if you require a paper copy.

We are so pleased to report that we have had a very good first week. The children have been brilliant. Those who are wobbly settle quickly and they are all enjoying making new friends and exploring the environment.

### **Our focus: Settling in and making friends**

We are initially focussing on building relationships and how to use and look after the resources. The children will be introduced to a range of fun outdoor and indoor opportunities and exciting materials. Alongside this, they will be learning the expectations and routines of the setting.

### **Tapestry**

Please make sure you have returned your form so we can link you to tapestry. It is a lovely way to share with you your child's experiences and achievements. We can also show you how we are helping them move forward in their learning and ways to support their learning at home. You are welcome to like and comment on observations and of course add your own. See Mrs Trent if you are unable to see your child's tapestry or if you need a new form.

### **Personal Belongings**

Please label everything that your child brings to nursery including clothing, (including what they are wearing), coats, pants, water bottles, snack pots, everything! We have a much younger cohort who are not always able to tell us or recognise what is theirs. Many thanks.

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### **Funding Forms**

If you have been given a form because you are using funded hours please return as soon as possible with proof of your child's date of birth to photocopy. We are happy to help you fill them in or check them for peace of mind. Thank you.

### **IQM inspection**

We are so proud that Polegate School has been recommended as a flagship school for the Inclusion Quality mark. The nursery was assessed as part of the school's inspection and we were very pleased with the positive feedback about the nursery that formed part of the report. Please look at on the website to see the report in full.

**"The nursery makes an excellent contribution, towards the success of the school, in providing a solid foundation."**

**IQM report June 2017**

### **Extension**

We were expecting the building work for the extension to start over the Summer, ready for January. We have now heard that this is to start in October half term ready for April. However this is still not guaranteed and we will of course keep you posted. We as a school and nursery, have no control of this.

## Changing Hours

It is the school policy that we can only change hours at the start of each funding period. (Sept, Jan April). There is also an admin fee for doing this, as there is more work than you can imagine involved in this process, and we also need at least 4 weeks notice. Please bear this all in mind. Thank you.

## Lunches

Lunches are £3 a session. This cost covers the adult supervision needed. Unfortunately it currently cannot be covered by funding. Please don't forget we are a NO NUT nursery. This includes peanut butter in sandwiches.

## Website Ideas

We are creating our own Nursery section on the school website. It has been the same since the nursery opened and the nursery has since evolved. Please share with Katy or Mrs Trent any ideas of what you would like to see or any useful information.

## Early collection

We do understand on the rare occasion it may be necessary to collect your child early however we do follow a routine including a valuable, adult led group time at the end of each session. It can be disruptive and unsettling for the rest of the group when they are engaged, your child misses out on the rest of the session and other children become upset because they wonder where their parent is. Please kindly take all this into consideration. Many thanks.

## Polegate Library

We are so sad to hear of the possible closure of Polegate Library. More and more children are joining nurseries across the county with poor speech and language skills. Not only does the library supply free books and other resources to share with children but also excellent rhyme time and small group sessions. These are vital in helping children with their listening and talking as well as benefitting the parents who attend. We are of course going to support the school in their campaign.

## Dates for the Diary

### Headteacher - Meet the Parents

**12pm and end of day Thursday 28th September**

Mrs Martin O'Donoghue is kindly coming over to say hello. This is a lovely opportunity to meet her, especially if you are beginning to think about your child joining Polegate School in September 2018.

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### Autumn Activity afternoon

**Wednesday 11th October 2017**

This is an open session for families 1.30pm-3pm  
more details to follow

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### Fireworks Night

**Fri 13th October 2017**

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### Last day of Nursery

**Friday 20th October 2017**

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### INSET day

**Monday 30th October 2017**

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### Nursery Reopens

**Tuesday 31st October 2017**

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## Finally ..... Family Photos

We have a family tree display in our nursery and we need all children to bring in a family photo to add to it. This is such an important and special display in our environment as it enables us to help the children feel secure and included. It also supports our belief that we value all the families that form our nursery community.

**Many thanks for your continued support.**

**Wishing you all a super Autumn term.**

**Love the Nursery Team**