

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to a new academic year - I hope that you had the opportunity to share quality time with your families and rest over the summer holiday. To our new nursery parents, welcome to Davies Lane, I hope that your children have settled in quickly.

Our aim as always is to provide a warm and welcoming environment that is safe and helps children to learn well and develop lifelong skills.

Your child will have a key worker who will oversee their learning and development – please ensure that you familiarise yourself with the key worker. They will be able to answer any queries that you may have.

In the Nursery this month, children have been finding their feet and as always the learning behaviour has been exceptional. We have high aspirations for our children, but we will not be able to reach our targets without the full support of all our parents and community.

We look forward to working with you.

Kind regards
Bronwen Chalmers
Headteacher

Diary Dates

- 1st October – Back History Month begins
- 1st October - Walk to school month begins
- 12th October – Curry and quiz night – south site
- 12th October – New Reception parents open day (9:30am) – South Site hall
- 16th October – Harvest festival. Parents invited (3:30-4:30pm)
- 19th October - Harvest collection – please bring In non-perishable foods to support local food banks
- 22nd October – Half term week

Nursery Attendance

We will be monitoring your child's weekly attendance and reporting it each month. Please ensure that your child attends each session. If they are unwell, please contact the school office to let us know they will not be in.

Punctuality is key!

It is important that your child arrives promptly for each session. This will ensure that they settle with greater ease and feel part of the learning environment.

Harvest Evening

We are planning a harvest evening for the children in Davies Lane Nursery and their parents on Tuesday 16th October from 3:30pm – 4:30pm. The children will be helping with the preparations over the next few weeks, giving them the opportunity to help plan an event and to take ownership of a project and feel proud of their learning environment. We are planning to have a fire-pit in the woodland area, where the children will have the opportunity to toast marshmallows and take part in other camping traditions. There will be the chance for parents to meet teachers and keyworkers and to get involved in the community feel that we want to encourage in the Nursery.

Davies Lane Reception Open Day for 2019-2020 starters

We'd like to invite all prospective parents to an open day on 12th October at 9:30am.

You will have the opportunity to meet some of the leadership team and to see our reception classes in action.

Please contact Laura Minns in the school office for further information.

office@davieslane.waltham.sch.uk

Curriculum

We value the different experiences that children bring with them to the nursery and plan to build on their interests and needs. We teach a topic based curriculum where children are encouraged to learn through play and are provided with a range of stimulating experiences.

It is our aim to provide quality learning experiences that prepare children for full time education. Early Years staff carefully plan programmes that are based on the 'areas of learning' outlined in the EYFS Development Matters. These are:-

Communication and language development, which involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations

Physical development involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement.

Personal, social and emotional development involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings and to understand appropriate behaviour in groups.

Literacy development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children are given access to a wide range of books to ignite their interest

Mathematics involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measure

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment

Expressive arts and design involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology

Your child will mostly be taught through games and play.

Reading Books and Homework



Your child will bring a reading book home with them each week. Please ensure that you read the book with your child and discuss the pictures that you see.

They will also bring regular homework home. This includes activities for parents and children to do at home and links closely to learning in the nursery.

Lost Property



Please ensure that your children's items of clothing and bags are clearly labelled. By putting a name on your child's property, we are able to ensure that items do not get lost.

FEEE Forms

If you have not yet returned your FEEE forms, please do so as soon as possible so that we can determine your eligibility for funding. Many thanks.