

HAPPY  
NEW YEAR



## Knockbreda Nursery School January 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope that you and your child had a wonderful Christmas break and wish you all a Happy New Year! Many thanks for the lovely gifts and cards we received before the Christmas break, they were sincerely appreciated by us all. We have enjoyed welcoming the children back to school and hearing all about their exciting Christmas holidays and of course, their favourite gifts! Thank you also for supporting our Christmas Jumper Day, Nursery raised £76 for Save the Children Fund.

### **Themes and topics**

This half-term, our learning topic is The Cold Lands (Arctic and Antarctic), including Winter. The learning across our classrooms will focus on this topic, with many exciting activities taking place. We will be enjoying melting ice in the water tray, taking part in a seasonal investigation outdoors, painting and creating snowmen and learning all about the season of Winter. We will be welcoming Mr Hullabaloo to Nursery this month and he will be performing a wonderful winter show for us all! We are also delighted that this month we will have a visit from the PSNI and we will also enjoy a yoga session with Aisling Cartin, at the end of January. We have included some of the songs and rhymes that we will be learning through our topic, so that you can share them with your child at home.

Each week we will be focusing on a shape, learning its name and counting the number of sides and corners each shape has. We will be learning about the square, circle, rectangle and triangle this month. Please support this at home through the songs and rhymes included in the shape booklet (accompanying this newsletter) and please feel free to send in some shapes from around your home, to enhance our shape table (named please).

### **Sickness and Absences**

- Please communicate any unplanned, unexpected absences by contacting the school directly on the first day of the absence (via phone or email). Any planned absences should be communicated in advance.

- Upon return to school, parents/carers should complete and return the 'absence from school' form, available on the school's website 'Parents' tab (paper copies of this form are also available from the School Office).
- **Diarrhoea and vomiting:** As detailed in your child's induction booklet, children should be **symptom-free for 48 hours** and should be able to hold down food and fluids before returning to school. Please do not send your child to school unless they have been symptom-free for 48 hours as this places the staff and other pupils at risk of illness.

### **Time of Session**

As we wish each child to have as long a session as possible to enjoy all the opportunities we provide, please ensure that they are in school **by 8.45am, at the very latest**. The main door will open at 8.30am daily. School dinner orders are placed at 9am and if your child arrives after this, they will have missed the daily meal orders. At home time please arrive promptly to pick your child up between 12.40-1pm. All children should leave the school site by 1pm prompt each day. After this time, there are no staff on duty to care for your child. If you are delayed due to an emergency, please let us know so that we can explain this to your child and reassure them.

### **Important information**

- As we use all of our outdoor play areas in all weather, please make sure that you return your child's named wellie boots in school and mittens/hat/ scarf for colder days. **Please clearly name all items and help your child become independent in putting on/ taking off their shoes, wellies, coats, hats and mittens. Please ensure all school shoes are clearly named.**
- There is a school fund charge of £40 per term (£120 for the year, ie 65p per day). This covers your child's daily drink, fruit and bread based snack, baking, play dough ingredients, Christmas and end of year parties, visitors who come into school each term, books for the school library, and other small items not covered by school's delegated budget. It is also a vital source of funding for our Enrichment Fridays. If you are paying School Fund termly, this term's school fund (£40) should be paid by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Cheques should be made payable to Knockbreda Nursery School (School Fund Account) and passed to the

Clerical Officer (Mrs Benson) or posted in the grey postbox at the main reception door.

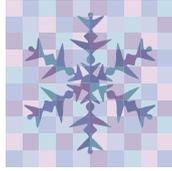
- To support our school curriculum, we would be most grateful if each child could bring in one pack of toilet wet wipes (not baby wipes), one sellotape, one masking tape and three pritt sticks (one for use each term). These items are for shared use and do not have to be named. In addition this term, we would ask for one box of tissues. Thank you in anticipation and thank you to all parents who have already kindly contributed these items at the start of the year.
- In case of closure due to snow, school will contact parents via email, directly from the school account. If you have not provided school with an email address, please check the school website for closure information and also BBC News NI Live for details.
- At our parent/carer consultation meetings in September, a number of parents enquired as to how they could best support their child at home throughout the Nursery year. In response to this, the Nursery staff have created a Parent/Carer support booklet to accompany each of the three Nursery terms. A paper copy of the Term 2 Support Booklet has been sent home in your child's tray. We hope you find this of use.

## Diary Dates:

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wednesday 10 January 2018	10am	PSNI visit school
Friday 19 January 2018	9.30am	Mr Hullabaloo's Winter Wonderland
Thursday 25 January 2018	9am	Yoga with Aisling Cartin
Friday 9 February 2018	Finish 11.10-11.30am No school dinners or Hub Club.	Half-term holiday from 12 February 2018 until Friday 16 February 2018. School and Hub Club re-open on Monday 19 February 2018, as normal.
Thursday 1 March 2018	All day	World Book Day Dress as your favourite book character and donate to Book Aid.
Tuesday 13 to Wednesday 14 March 2018 Pupils may <u>pay</u> to attend Hub Club from 11.30-3pm. (£4 per hour pro-rated). Packed lunch must be provided by home.	Finish 11.10-11.30am No school dinners.	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings. This is an opportunity to meet with your child's Class Teacher and discuss the settling in period. Sign up appointment sheets will be available outside the classroom, the week before the meetings.
Monday 19 March 2018	Closed. No Hub Club	School closed for St Patrick's Day
Wednesday 28 March 2018	Finish 11.10-11.30am No school dinners or Hub Club.	Easter egg hunt. School and Hub Club close for Easter and both will re-open on Tuesday 10 April 2018, as normal.
Friday 4 May 2018	9am	School Photographer in school at 9am to take class photographs.
Monday 7 May 2018	Closed. No Hub Club	School closed for May Day.

Wednesday 16 May 2018	Early close 12.10- 12.30pm No Hub Club	Induction meeting for new parents/ carers. All pupils to be collected from school between 12.10-12.30pm prompt. School dinner served as normal.
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# Winter Songs and Rhymes



The Cold Lands

## Chubby Snowman



**There was a chubby snowman**  
(hold arms around body)

**Who had a carrot nose**  
(with one hand make a pinching motion and pull it out from your nose to insinuate a carrot shape)

**Along came a bunny**  
(hold up two fingers and make a hopping motion)

**And what do you suppose?**  
(shrug shoulders)

**That hungry little bunny**  
(rub tummy)

**Was looking for his lunch**  
(hold one hand over eyes and look around)

**He ate that snowman's nose....**  
**Nibble, nibble CRUNCH!**  
(use hand to make a chomping mouth action at your nose)

## 5 Little Penguins

5 Little penguins slipping on the ice  
One fell down, that's not nice.  
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said,  
"No more penguins slipping on the ice."

4 Little penguins slipping on the ice  
One fell down, that's not nice.  
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said,  
"No more penguins slipping on the ice."



3 Little penguins slipping on the ice  
One fell down, that's not nice.  
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said,  
"No more penguins slipping on the ice."

2 Little penguins slipping on the ice  
One fell down, that's not nice.  
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said,  
"No more penguins slipping on the ice."

1 Little penguin slipping on the ice  
One fell down, that's not nice.  
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said,  
"No more penguins slipping on the ice."

No more penguins slipping on the ice  
None fell down, that's real nice.  
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said,  
"No more penguins slipping on the ice."

## **Five Little Snowmen**

Five Little snowmen sitting in the snow,  
The 1<sup>st</sup> one said, "My nose is cold!"  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> one said, "Let's have some fun!"  
The 3<sup>rd</sup> one said, "Look at the hot sun!"  
The 4<sup>th</sup> one said, "I think we should run!"  
The 5<sup>th</sup> one said, "I think I'm done!"



## The Mulberry Bush

Here we go round the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush!

Here we go round the mulberry bush on a cold and frosty morning!



## Little Snowman

(to the tune of I'm a little teapot)

I'm a little snowman round and fat

Here are my mittens

Here is my hat

Add a little scarf and a carrot nose

You stand so tall when the cool wind blows

