

HAPPY
NEW YEAR



Knockbreda Nursery School January 2020 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 your generous support for our Christmas Jumper Day; Nursery raised £60.79 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, 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 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.

In Nursery we will be focusing on shapes, learning the names of the shapes and counting the number of sides and corners each shape has. We will be learning about squares, circles, rectangles and triangles. Please support this at home through the songs and rhymes included in the shape booklet (accompanying this newsletter).

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 all children arrive in school **by 8.45am, to enjoy our morning Welcome Time session, with arrival at 8.50am at the very latest.** School lunch 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. Please ensure that this information is clearly communicated to anyone responsible for dropping off or collecting your child. Thank you.

Office Hours

The School Office is open from **9.15am – 12.45pm each day.** It would be appreciated if telephone calls to school could be made during these hours only as it is disruptive for the children if classroom staff are answering the telephone while the children are arriving and enjoying their morning Welcome Times in the Quiet Rooms. Many thanks for your support in this regard.

Sickness and Absences

- Please communicate any unplanned, unexpected absences by completing the online absence form (link below) on the first day of the absence:

<https://www.knockbredanursery.co.uk/reporting-absence-from-school/>

- Any planned absences should be communicated in advance.
- **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.

Important information

- As we use all our outdoor play areas in all weather, please make sure that you return your child's named wellie boots into 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. All school shoes should also be clearly named. It is recommended that the children now wear thermal, waterproof ski style mittens for outdoor play.**

The Red Apples attend Forest School each Wednesday and the Green Apples each Thursday - please ensure that your child is suitably dressed on these days. It is preferable that the girls do not wear dresses and tights on for Forest School but wear thicker jogging style bottoms. It may also be advisable for all children to wear an additional under-layer as we are now into the colder weather and we play outside every day.

- For those paying termly, the school fund charge of £50 for this term (£150 for the year, ie 86p per day) should be paid by Friday 24th January 2020. This pays for 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 items not covered by school's delegated budget. Cheques should be made payable to Knockbreda Nursery School (School Fund Account). Please do not hand monies or cheques to the members of staff in the classroom, rather use the secure grey fixed postbox in the reception foyer. Your support is much appreciated.
- In event of school closure due to snow, school will contact parents via email, directly from the school email 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. Closure information will also be shared on the school website www.knockbredanursery.co.uk
- 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.

- To support our school curriculum, we would be very grateful if each child could bring in one box of tissues, one pack of toilet wet wipes, one pack of baby wipes, one sellotape, one masking tape and a glue stick. These items are for shared use and do not have to be named. Thank you in anticipation, your support with this is much appreciated.

Shared Education

- As part of our ongoing partnership links and following the success of our Festive Coffee Morning last term, we would like to invite parents/carers and grandparents to join us for a Shared Education coffee morning on Thursday 13 February 2020 at St Bernard's Primary School from 9.30am. Further information will follow.

Rights Respecting School Award

- Thanks to all our parents and families who supported our Shoe Shared initiative. We donated 75 pairs of shoes! Thank you!

We will be holding a first meeting of a Rights Respecting School Award steering group at 9.00am on Friday 24th January 2020 and would very much like interested parents to be involved. If you would like to attend this meeting, please email Mrs Benson to make her aware of your interest.

Cash for Clobber

As you know, the 'Cash for Clobber' clothing bank is situated at the top school entrance gate. We welcome parents and neighbours to use this facility for recycling unwanted fabric items all year round. Items that can be accepted include reusable clothing, shoes, curtains, towels, sheets and blankets.

As well as helping those less fortunate than ourselves by donating, we are also helping the environment by reducing the need for landfill and we can also win a cash prize for Knockbreda Nursery, as the school that collects the most clobber between now and June 2020 wins £500!

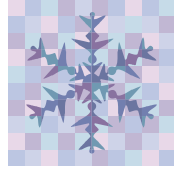
Collection bags will be sent home in children's trays this week – if you have unwanted, suitable items that you wish to donate, please leave these bags in school by Tuesday 21st January 2020. Thank you for your support!

Diary Dates:

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday 7 January 2020	8.30am	School re-opens after the Christmas break.
Monday 20 January 2020	9.30am	Mr Hullabaloo.
Thursday 23 January 2020 Hub Club in Forest School, invoice adjusted pro-rata.	Early close 12.10-12.30pm	Open Afternoon for Prospective Pupils School dinner served as normal.
Monday 3 to Tuesday 4 February 2020 Hub Club in Forest School, invoice adjusted pro-rata.	Finish 10.40-11am No school meals.	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings. This is an opportunity to meet with your child's Class Teacher and discuss your child's progress. Sign up appointment sheets will be available outside the classroom, the week before the meetings.
Thursday 13 February 2020	9.30am	Shared Education Coffee Morning.
Friday 14 February 2020 No Hub Club	Finish 10.40-11am No school meals.	Half-term holiday from 17 February 2020 until Monday 24 February 2020. School re-opens on Tuesday 25 February 2020 as normal.
Thursday 5 March 2020	All day	World Book Day. Dress as your favourite book character and donate to Book Aid.
Tuesday 17 March 2020	Closed	School closed for St Patrick's Day.
Friday 3 April 2020 No Hub Club	Finish 10.40-11am No school meals.	Easter egg hunt. School closes for Easter and will re-open on Monday 20 April 2020, as normal.
Friday 8 May 2020	Closed	School closed for May Day.
Friday 15 May 2020	9am	School Photographer in school at 9am to take class photographs.
Monday 18 May 2020 Hub Club in Forest School	Early close 12.10-12.30pm	Induction meeting for new parents/ carers. All pupils to be collected from school between 12.10-12.30pm prompt. School lunch served as normal.
Tuesday 19 - Wednesday 20 May 2020 Hub Club in Forest School	Early close 12.10-12.30pm	Play and Stay sessions for new pupils- all pupils to be collected from school between 12.10-12.30pm prompt. School lunch served as normal.

Monday 25 May 2020	Closed	School closed for the bank holiday.
Friday 29 May 2020	All day	Diversity Day An opportunity to celebrate and learn more about the diversity of cultures attending our school and in our local community! We would love our parents to take part in this special event!
Monday 1 to Tuesday 2 June 2020 Hub Club in Forest School, invoice adjusted pro-rata.	Finish 10.40-11am No school meals.	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings. An optional final term meeting to discuss any issues arising from your child's Pre-School Transition report.
Friday 5 June 2020	9am	Hats and Shades Day Wear your hats and shades and donate to the NI Cancer Fund for Children. Lending Library Final Lending Library- book return.
Wednesday 17 June and Thursday 18 June 2020 Red Apples: 17 June at 11am (with immediate collection afterwards) No Hub Club Green Apples: 18 June at 11am (with immediate collection afterwards) No Hub Club	11.11.30am Early close 10-10.20am Early close 10-10.20am	End of Nursery Celebration events: Wednesday 17 June 2020 Please join us for the End of Nursery Celebration event for Red Apple Class. Early closure for Green Apples 10.10-10.20am prompt. School meals will not be provided. Thursday 18 June 2020 Please join us for the End of Nursery Celebration event for Green Apple Class. Early closure for Red Apples 10.10-10.20am prompt. School meals will not be provided.
Tuesday 30 June 2020 No Hub Club	Finish 10.40-11am	School closes for summer.

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 1st one said, "My nose is cold!"
The 2nd one said, "Let's have some fun!"
The 3rd one said, "Look at the hot sun!"
The 4th one said, "I think we should run!"
The 5th 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

