

Welcome to Keswick House

09.09.19

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to Keswick House; we are looking forward to an exciting autumn term in Nursery. The key teachers in the Lower Nursery are Mrs Natalia, Mrs Justyna and Miss Petrina. Our classroom assistants are Miss Lindsey and Mrs Theresa. The key teachers in the Upper Nursery are Miss Kerry, Miss Jacquie and Miss Emma. Our dance teacher is Mrs Léa who teaches on Tuesdays.

Mrs Gabriella is our Head of Nursery Schools and spends time here and at our sister Nursery at the main school in Wandsworth.

We will be sending out a comprehensive list of diary dates by the end of the first week but would like to draw your attention to the following important date:

Social evening for Nursery and Lower School parents- Wednesday 11th September 5.30pm in the Main Hall.

We will also be sending out a weekly newsletter by email. We now have a comprehensive list of emails and if you would like a different email added please let Mrs Lisa know.

Start and End of the School Day

The nursery door will be open between 8.45am and 9.15 each day. After their first day at school your child should be in the nursery by 9.15am at the latest each day to ensure that they have access to free-flow play and any activities which have been planned by their key teacher. During the first week at Nursery you are welcome to come in with your child, if you feel they need it. However, please remember that children do settle much faster if farewells are kept brief and cheerful.

Parent Communication

This week your child will come home with a comment book. This book provides you with an opportunity to have an open and regular dialogue with your child's key teacher. If you would like to communicate anything about your child please write your message in the book and **hand the book to your child's key teacher**. Each week your child will be given a weekly target as well as information about what they have achieved/enjoyed that week at Nursery. We pride ourselves on having good partnerships with parents and operate an 'open door' policy. If you feel you would like to speak to a member of staff please arrange an appointment for before or after school.

Curriculum

Each day we offer the children free-flow play (choice of outside and classroom play-based learning) and a balance of child-initiated and adult-directed activities. Most mornings, the children have access to two focused activities. One activity is within a small group and the other activity is part of the free-flow play, available to all the children. Teachers also continue to work individually with each child and their key groups. Our free-flow plan will be posted on the Nursery notice board (found on the wall as you enter the gate) each week so that you can see how we have prepared the environment according to the children's interests.

At snack time the children are encouraged to help themselves to freshly prepared fruit as well as having the option of a biscuit. We are also encouraging the children to pour their own milk or water with support. **Please note we have removed grapes from our list.**

This term's project is 'Big Things, Little Things'. The notice board outside describes our weekly project activities that provide suggestions for follow up ideas at home; this information is also on our website www.keswickhousenursery.com . Feel free to bring in any resources related to our project that you might have at home and we will take good care of them.

We have a phonics focus activities during the course of the week. At this early stage it would be helpful if parents could refrain from calling the letters by their alphabet name and support us by pronouncing them according to their phonetic sound. For example 'a' for apple and 'b' for ball.

The Upper Nursery children will have forest school activities led by Miss Kerry and the Lower Nursery children with Mrs Natalia on Fridays. We call this activity Fresh Air Friday. All children will need a school 'puddle suit' which can be purchased at Perry uniform and they will also need wellington boots to be kept at school.

At the end of the week 3 Upper Nursery children will be chosen to take home one of our class bears for the weekend (each child will be picked once). As well as the teddy bear which they take home, we will have a special book to share pictures and comments about what you did that weekend. We invite the children to share their adventures with their class by talking about what they did at the weekend with 'Goggy', 'Rainbow' and 'Flower'. Please be aware that this book is shared so please let us know if you do not wish your photographs to be shared.

Lunches

Children who stay for the afternoon session are to bring a packed lunch and place it in their key group lunch box which will be placed outside each classroom. We do operate a 'no nut' policy at the school.

Parent involvement

We also invite parents to prepare and supervise an activity every Wednesday morning. If you would like to sign up, please let Mrs Lisa know. If you need help with resources, we are very happy to provide you with any materials you require and please ask the teachers for any help with ideas.

We will be sending out the date for our Curriculum Talk with the diary dates by the end of the week. We look forward to an exciting term ahead and Mrs Gabriella and I are always happy to discuss any questions you may have.

Kind regards

Mrs Lisa
Nursery Manager