



**Heath Lane Nursery School**  
Heath Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP1 1TT  
Telephone (01442) 255418  
Email [admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk)

**Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Yendell**

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17<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week has gone by; please take the time to congratulate yourselves on keeping your children safe and ensuring that they are as happy as possible given the circumstances. Parents I spoke to this week have shared that their children have been displaying unusually angry or difficult behaviour. This is completely normal and understandable; children will all be very aware that something is happening and have varying understanding of this. It is very difficult for 3/4/5 year olds to verbalise their concerns or confusion that their normal world has been turned upside down. Be kind to yourselves.

### **Good News**

We are delighted to introduce two new members of staff to you. As you will be aware we had staff vacancies in the Spring term. We have successfully recruited the following new members to the Heath Lane Nursery team:



#### **Bethany Kent**

Bethany joins us with a vast amount of experience of leadership in the Early Years. She led her previous early years' team to outstanding provision which was used by the county as an example of high quality practice. She has a passion for child lead learning, embracing outdoor provision and developing stimulating learning environments. She will be working two days a week taking an integral part in the school's continual striving for improvement.



#### **Juliet Whitlock**

Juliet has worked in a variety of roles in different schools but has always had her heart in Early Years. She too has a real passion for outdoor learning and ensuring that children's interests are kept at the heart of all she does. She has lots of experience of signing and we are looking forward to developing our use of signing with her support. She will be working full time as the key person for the Robin group.



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Earlier in the week I was reminded by a child that I am actually 'quite old!' Whilst neither of these new appointments are going to help me feel any younger, I am thrilled to have them in the team! We all look forward to the time that you can meet them. In the meantime, they will be working with the team to ensure that we are regularly communicating with you all.

### **School Allocations**

Those of you who applied for a school Reception place for your child should have received an offer of a place by e-mail. The e-mail should have contained all the information required regarding next steps but just to remind you:

- The deadline for you to respond to the allocation is **30 April 2020**.
- if you wish to access post-allocation day information, including details about the continuing interest and appeals process, the information is available on this website:

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/primaryoptions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/primaryoptions) or alternatively by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 0300 123 4043.

At Heath Lane we have no influence over the allocation of school places but are happy to discuss any concerns you have regarding your allocations if you feel that would be useful. Contact us on [admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk) and one of the team will call you.

### **Facebook**

We have had a great response to our weekly slideshow so will be continuing this, every Friday. If you would like your child's photo/s to be included, please send by 3pm Friday to: [admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk)

### **Washing Line Activity**

Please find attached a washing line activity provided by one of our talented parents Lizzie Martell! You can challenge your child to decorate the items, cut them out (they may well need help with this!) Create a washing line (perhaps using string or ribbon, pair of old tights) and challenge them to peg up the clothes. All great for fine motor development! Printed copies will be in the book shed outside the nursery from Monday morning. Remember that this is a completely voluntary activity but do feel free to carry out with your child if you feel it would benefit them. If your child does have a go, we would love to know how they got on!



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## ONGOING REMINDERS FROM PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

### **Supporting Key Workers**

*You will be aware that we are open for the children of key workers and staff are continuing to provide care and continuity for those children of parents who have a key role in the fight against COVID 19. We are aware that working circumstances/government guidance are changing at a rapid pace. If you believe that you are a key worker and require a school space to support you go to work please e-mail us at:*

*[admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk)*

### **Financial Challenges**

*I am very aware that some of you will be facing great financial challenge in the days/weeks/months ahead. If you are in a very difficult situation already and do not have the funds to purchase food please contact me directly on: [Head@heathlane.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Head@heathlane.herts.sch.uk)*

With kind regards,

Hayley Yendell

Headteacher