



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

Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Yendell

11th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well what a lovely, busy week! After all of our work over the summer improving the learning environment it was fantastic to see children finally using it! Thanks to the staff for all their hard work this week to ensure that all children felt as safe and secure as possible, thanks to all you parents for supporting all the systems we have in place and my biggest thanks goes to the children! They have been so brave and resilient and we have loved every minute this week! Very much looking forward to a rest this weekend though...

Water Bottles and Snacks

Children do not need water bottles in school unless you want to put one in their packed lunch boxes. We have plenty of cups and a water cooler in the classroom. Children have access to the water cooler for two hours in the morning session and two hours in the afternoon. We put all cups in a hot wash in our dishwasher at the end of each session. We are currently training the children how to use the cooler and are offering drinks regularly. We also provide a range of snacks that change from day to day; apples, bananas, satsumas, toast, bread sticks, raisins etc. Children do not need to bring a snack into the session unless by prior arrangement due to medical needs.

Catch up with the key person

In the week beginning 21st September our 'catch up' calls will start. This gives us a chance to get to know your children a little bit better before we chat with you. These are quick 'catch ups' with your child's key person letting you know how your child is getting on and giving you a chance to ask questions. The first call will focus on transition.

Packed Lunches

To support children with entering the building independently you may have noticed that we now put box trolleys outside for packed lunches and bottles to go into. This enables children to walk in without having too much to carry. From next week we will put the lunchboxes and bottles on a table outside for collection. This will allow the children to listen to an end of day story without having to organise too much other than their book bag and jumper/coat.



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Pathway from Young Discoverers Preschool

You might be aware that there is a pathway that goes from Young Discoverers Preschool up to the school car park. Halfway up the path is a gate which is often locked. We have no control over this gate-it is staffed by the preschool team. We have been informed that staff at the preschool will not always be available to open this prior to 8.30. We know that lots of families use this path so we just wanted to warn you that it is not guaranteed to be open and it might be better to walk round (up Cemetery Hill).

Reminders

Family Photos

We now have lots of photos displayed in each key group area. If you have not yet sent your family photo in please send one to: admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk It is lovely for children to go and look at these photos when they are missing you and it is great to celebrate the wonderfully diverse and rich community we are proud to have at Heath Lane.

Remember you are welcome to send in more than one photo if your child has two significant households (or more) that you would like represented on the board.

Naming Clothing/Equipment

Please name **EVERYTHING** that your child brings into school. It is amazing the places children take items off and put them down-if they are named we can always get them back to you.

School Comms

We have recently sent you a letter introducing you to School Gateway – a parent engagement app that will allow you to pay for school events, wraparound care and for us to communicate with you at anytime from anywhere.

All school related payments and communication will go through School Gateway as we are now a cashless office.

To stay up to date with what's going on at school make sure you download the app for free. Just search *School Gateway* in your App store and download. Your login details will be automatically generated using the contact information we already hold for you, so please make sure the details are up to date. You can check and change these details by sending an email to admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk

If you need any support or assistance, please contact the office.



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Parent Lite

You will by now have all received the log on information for the parent app Parent Lite which allows you to be able to access and check the details we hold for you on our records. If you have not already done so, then please register as soon as possible, to ensure that our records are kept up to date with your personal details.

Queuing at the start of the session

I would like to thank you all for your patience with our system for getting children into the session (particularly in the mornings). The children have been absolutely fabulous and we are so pleased with how well they are doing. We are aware though that this can be a long wait for children if they need to go to the toilet. Please do bring your child to the front of the queue if this is the case and we will get them in quickly. We are sure that you would all agree that this is a perfectly reasonable reason to get a fast pass!

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards

Hayley Yendell