



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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24<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week marked my one-year anniversary as Headteacher of Heath Lane Nursery School. It has been an extremely busy but hugely rewarding experience. The steep learning curve has given me a great insight into what it is like to be a Nursery child; I was new to a place, not quite sure what my role was and had a huge amount to learn in a short space of time. I am in renewed awe of the resilience of our young learners and will endeavour to show the same resilience leading through these unprecedented times.

### **Welcome**

This week sees 11 new children and their families join us. I would like to warmly welcome them to Heath Lane Nursery School. In different circumstances we would have carried out home visits, had an open morning and been settling in this week. However, we shall use our many lines of communication to make everyone feel as welcome as possible in these challenging times.

### **What's been going on behind the scenes?**

You might be wondering what is happening at school whilst we are only open for the children of keyworkers. Here is a quick update:

**School Governors:** I have a weekly phone conversation with our Chair of Governors, Judy Davies and the rest of the governing body are keeping in touch through e-mails, to ensure they are aware of what is happening in the school and how we are keeping children and staff happy and healthy. Governors are continuing to review school policies and we will start thinking of how to use technology for our summer meeting.

**Teaching Team:** We currently have 5 staff members rotating to provide care for the children of keyworkers throughout the week. Staff members who are not able to come in have been keeping in daily contact through a staff WhatsApp group. This has been great for continuing communication and keeping morale high. I have set staff home learning tasks too! They have been looking at video clips and training slides reflecting on ways we can improve provision when we return. They will soon be taking part in online training. There will certainly be lots to discuss when we return!



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**Admin Team/Site Team:** Miss Bates and Mrs Deane have been working remotely (and occasionally onsite) to ensure that e-mail communication continues, bills get paid and admission enquiries are being dealt with. They have been doing a fantastic job of keeping me well informed when I have been in the classroom. Mr Hanson has been at the end of a phone every time we have had a question regarding the premises-and there have been a fair few!

I would personally like to thank all of the above for ensuring that we can open to support the children of parents' instrumental in the fight against COVID-19 and for making every effort to ensure that Heath Lane Nursery School continues to be a happy and safe place. Thank you!

### **Communication**

It has been fantastic to keep in touch with you all through phone calls, e-mails and Facebook. We are regularly e-mailing information, letters, daily challenges so if you do change e-mail address please let us know. We would not want you to miss the regular updates and resources being sent.

### **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)

### **School Allocations**

Those of you who applied for a Reception place for your child you should have received your offer this week. If you would like to discuss the allocation with a member of staff do get in touch by e-mailing [admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk). We have no influence over allocations and hope that you have been informed about the procedure for appeals. But we can chat through any concerns you have regarding either the allocation and/or appeal. If you have specific concerns regarding your child's transition and special educational needs please contact Mrs Feely (our Special Needs Co-ordinator) via email at [kirsty.feeley@heathlane.herts.sch.uk](mailto:kirsty.feeley@heathlane.herts.sch.uk)

## **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 place. If you believe that*



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*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