

All Hallows Primary School
Parent Information Letter - Autumn 2019

Dear Parents and carers,

Hope you have had a relaxing and fun filled summer!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new children and parents to All Hallows Primary School and the Foundation Unit. The classes within the school have all been named after parks/forests in Nottingham. We are known as 'Bestwood'. We are your child's teachers but they will meet Teaching Assistants that work in the classroom at different times in the day - Miss Edwards and Mrs Levi.

Our topics this term are 'Ourselves' and 'People who help us'. However, throughout the term and year we will be planning activities based on the children's interests and the next steps in their learning.

At the beginning of a new academic year there is always so much information to share with you. Below is some information which will hopefully answer a few of the questions you may have over the first few weeks.

- You are invited to an information evening on **Wednesday 9th October** to find out about how we teach phonics and maths. It will be at **5pm**, to hopefully allow as many of you to come as possible. We will be sharing some exciting new things we are doing in the unit so even if you have had children pass through Bestwood in recent years, we would encourage you to come! We will be available from 4.30pm and after the meeting to speak to you individually about how your child is settling in. We do appreciate finding childcare may be a challenge for some, unfortunately there will not be staff available during the meeting to look after the children but we understand that you may need to bring them along (with quiet activity!).
- As part of our topic we will be looking at families; please could you send in a photo of your child with their family for them to share and talk about. Please could you bring it in by the Friday 13th September. (If you would like it returning please indicate on the reverse of picture. Thank you). If you would rather email them please send them to rsawford@hallows.notts.sch.uk.
- The children need to line up on the big playground. When the bell goes the children need to be in the line ready to walk in. Please could you allow your child to walk in on their own as the corridor is, unfortunately, not big enough for children and parents! Children need to be collected just outside the unit at home time (by our outside area).
- It is important that your child has their book bag in school with them every day. Your child will be provided with a reading book (without words) and a book for you to read to them. These will be changed on a **weekly** basis. The children will also be given an organiser. When you hear your child read/tell a story could you **please make a note in their organiser**. The

information workshop on the 9th **October** will go into more detail about our reading and phonics scheme.

- Please take time to read through your child's organiser, particularly at the behaviour information at the beginning.
- Please could you provide your child with a NAMED drinks bottle filled with water. We encourage the children to drink regularly during the day. If your child has milk they still need to be provided with a water bottle.
- Your child will be provided with a fruit snack each day. There will be more choice as the week goes on.
- All children are entitled to a FREE SCHOOL LUNCH. We will make you aware if your child is not eating the food provided and you may choose to send a packed lunch. Please be aware that we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL. This is particularly important as some pupils in our school have a severe allergy to a range of nuts.** If you would like your child to have a pack lunch, please send them with it in the morning and ask your child to tell the teacher.
- PE this term is on a Thursday. **Please, please, please** could you clearly name all your child's clothes - as you can imagine lots of children all getting changed at the same time can easily turn into a 'nightmare!'. We will send home PE kits each half term for a wash. **Please tie up any long hair on P.E days and remove earrings!** We will be having a practise for PE on **Thursday 5th** so please have PE kits in school by then!
- Forest school will usually be on a Wednesday. Please could you ensure your child has wellies and waterproof trousers and coats in school during the week in order to keep their school clothes clean. These can be sent home weekly. **Please could you ensure they are in school by 16th September as we will be going this week!**
- We are hoping to have '**games time**' each Friday from 2:30pm. Games are a great way of learning new skills! If you are able to join us to play a game with 3-4 children please let us know which Friday's you are available; you don't need to sign up for every week but we will need 6 parents/ carers/ grandparents for it to work! Look out for the sign-up sheet next week.
- As you will probably be aware, school budgets are tight. We love to provide interesting learning opportunities like baking and planting which need consumable items. So we are asking if every child could contribute £2 each term to the things we will be creating this term. Many thanks.

Hopefully we have answered some of your questions; please feel free to pop in after school if you need any more information. If you would like to come and help in the Foundation Unit please let us know - any help would be very much appreciated!

We are all looking forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Nicola Gillett and Rachel Sawford

Foundation Teachers