

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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### **Upcoming Events**

#### Children In Need



We will be supporting Chidren in Need this year and invite the children to dress in their pyjamas on Friday 15th November.

We will be asking for a donation of a minimum of £2 to support this worthwhile charity which the children can bring on the day. We shall also be selling Pudsey Ears!

# Parent Reps Meeting

It was a pleasure to meet with our parent reps vesterday morning and I am very pleased to say that arrangements for the Christmas parties and raffle are moving forward well.

You will have all had an invitation by now and we would appreciate your R.S.V.P's by 18th November. If you could please reply to your rep, they are kindly collating the numbers for us. Please note that this event is for adults only.

We have already received offers of some fantastic raffle prizes. If you are able to donate something, the raffles promise to be fun and all money raised will be donated to Place2be and the Alzheimer's Society.



**Proprietor: Mr Brian Berkery** 

## *Curriculum News from Miss Belzer*

In the busyness of everyday life, it can be hard to pause and spend quality time together. Playing board games gives you a rare chance to enjoy each other's company. When you are all sitting together, the family unit strengthens and the sense of belonging increases. Games can start and stop and mould around conversations.

Simple games can help your child learn colours, shapes, counting skills, letters, orientation and direction. Simple games support your child to develop:

- hand-eye coordination and dexterity
- language and communication skills
- an increased attention span
- team work and an understanding of taking turns
- resilience when things do not go their way

Dice games help to develop many visual, perceptual, cognitive and thinking skills. Moving counters teaches spatial awareness, which helps to train the higher functions of the brain. Fine motor skills and good hand-eye coordination are key to handwriting and other areas that require dexterity and precision, including typing. Games also involve clear rules, supporting your child's ability to follow instructions.

We hope you will find time to enjoy some simple games at home.



## Visit to The Hall School

Miss Belzer and I had the opportunity to visit The Hall earlier this week. It was lovely to see the Reception classes and their new and evolving outdoor area and to hear from the team about how they are developing their teaching and learning in Early Years. It was interesting to hear from Mr Godwin about the plans for the third Reception class that will be in place from September 2020.

#### Assessments

Our 4 + assessments have started this week with the first round for girls at South Hampstead School. We wish everyone all the best for their upcoming visits. Please remember to keep the office up to date with all dates coming up so that we know exactly when the children are attending and are best able to support them.

### **Class 2 News**

We were so excited to welcome the children back from the half term break. They all came in with big smiles on their faces, eager to see what we were going to explore this week. We have started learning our first phonic sound 's' and have been looking for some hidden pictures, in the coloured rice tray, that begin with letter 's'. The children really enjoyed singing 'The snake is in the grass' song and pretended to be wriggly snakes using their arms.

In maths, we have been exploring quantities such as more and less and the children have played a variety of games to secure this new concept. In addition, we have made beautiful pictures of fire engines, using different shapes, for our maths wall. You are welcome to come and have a look!

Our topic this half term is Transport and this week we have been discussing what transport moves on the land. The children were pretending to drive their trucks, cars and lorries, singing many transport songs. We used paint and cars to make marks on paper and explored how different tyres make different marks. The role-play area has transformed into a Fire Station. We have had

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lots of fun pretending to be fire-fighters; driving in the big fire engine, putting out the fires and rescuing lots of animals stuck in the trees.



I wish you all a lovely and relaxing weekend. We look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday.

With best wishes

Mrs Sylvester

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