

Holmewood, Maytree and Triangle Nursery Schools' Federation

Executive Headteacher: Rachel Hedley

Maytree, The Weir Link and Tree House Children's Centres
Children's Centre Strategic Partnership Manager: Bettina Wilhelm-Exley



Holmewood

Head of School: Tania Fricker

66 Upper Tulse Hill

SW2 2RW

020 8674 2186

admin@holmewoodnurseryschool.org.uk

www.holmewoodnurseryschool.org.uk

Autumn Newsletter 3

This half term is one of the busiest of the year for everyone, with the start of seasonal Holiday preparations at home and school and completing applications for starting reception in September 2018. Although the weather will become chillier and possibly damper, we will continue to ensure that your children enjoy plenty of outdoor activities at nursery so please make sure your child is dressed comfortably for the cold or wet weather. It is also a good time to provide parents and carers with a few updates and reminders.

Black History Celebrations in October were as successful and enjoyable as ever. We were supported by the children's author Trish Cooke who visited the school to give a story session reading some of her popular stories. The children enjoyed this captivating event and we feel very privileged to have had such a special person spend time at Holmewood and share her time reading from one of her books to our children.

Annual Christmas Raffle preparations have started and we need everyone's help with this major school fund raising event.

- **Now** is the time to ask friends, families, businesses etc for contributions which we can use as prizes.
- Quality gifts – toiletries, unwanted presents etc.
- Donations to make an attractive 1st prize Christmas hamper
- Or 2nd prize box of wines
- Gift vouchers donating: restaurant meals, days-out and experiences, shopping etc.
- Toiletries etc are needed.

Any gifts or items that you think would make good prizes are needed - **Please** bring donations into the office as soon as you can. We also have official school letters in the office for you to give to present when asking for donations from suppliers and businesses.

Raffle Tickets We hope you will be able to purchase as many tickets as possible and remember to write your child's name on the back of the half you return to the office. The Christmas **Raffle Draw is on Tuesday 19th December 2017.**

Absences, please remember to keep us informed of any absences. At this time of the year, lots of colds and coughs are circulating, viruses spread very quickly, not just to other children but to staff which results in staff shortages due to illness. Please do not bring your child to school if they are unwell as it is distressing for them and they do not enjoy being at nursery when unwell. If you have any doubts about whether your child is fit for school, visit your GP for advice or ring the school to check on our guidance for illness exclusion periods.

Our Allotment at the back of the school is an allotment which we work hard to maintain with the

children. We are always keen for assistance with the allotment so please speak to a member of office staff if you would like to help.

School Fund

The school fund is an important voluntary donation that we use to enrich the provision for your children. We use it to buy daily fruit, improve the library and organise special events such as visits by authors. We suggest £1.00 per week for part time children and £2.00 for full time children. Last week we received £36.42. Please remember how important your weekly donations are.

Dinner money payments please check your dinner money balance in the office. Dinner money should be paid in advance, £2.31 per day or £11.55 per week. You can pay in the office or use a BACS transfer. **Free School Meals** – if you think your child might be entitled to free meals, you must collect a form from Jade in the office to complete and return as soon as possible.

Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs. Breakfast club and afterschool club are available on a regular or ad hoc basis. Booking may be made on the day provided there is space available, Breakfast club is from 7.45 and costs £6.00, afterschool club is from 3.15 -6.00 and costs £12.00.

Food. Please do not allow your child to have food when coming into nursery and they should not have food items in their pocket for eating later as the food may pose a danger to the other children with severe allergies.

Tree House Children's Centre. The children's centre offers a variety of activities to support families and parenting in our community and you are always welcome to visit the centre or ask in the office for a copy of the latest timetable

Primary school admissions 2018/19 the closing date for reception class applications for children born between born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 is **Monday 15th January 2018.**

Starting primary school in Lambeth 2018/19 booklet is available on-line now at <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Starting-Primary-School-in-Lambeth-2018-19-web-final.pdf>; **'Apply on-line and apply on time!'** Computers are available for parents/carers to use in the school hall.

Working together - Parents & Carers are welcome to help or contribute to events in the nursery, if you are available and would like to help occasionally with outings or activities, or if you have any skills which you feel would contribute to value of the children's learning in the school (e.g singing, reading, story-telling, art etc.) please mention it to a member of the classroom staff. All volunteers are issued with 'Safeguarding' procedures to follow when working in our school. If you have any ideas of ways to improve our provision, please don't hesitate to share them: drop a note into the comment box, located outside the school office; leave a note in the office; send an email to; admin@holmewood-nurseryschool.org.uk.

Dates for your Diary

- **Friday 17th November – dress in spots for children in Need, £1.00 donation.**
- **5th December - Christmas trees and decorations go up to start our festive season**
- **Thursday 14th December Christmas Show – Santa's Little Helper**
- **Tuesday 19th December - Children's Carols-Around-the- Tree and Christmas Raffle**

- **Wednesday 20th December - Children's Christmas Party and last day for children, School Closes for Christmas Holidays 11.45am**
- **Monday 8th January 2018 – Children Return to School**
- **Monday 15 January 2018 – Closing date for primary school admission forms**