

Primrose Hill Primary School

Princess Road, Regent's Park, London NW1 8JL

Tel: 020 7722 8500

admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk

www.primrosehill.camden.sch.uk



Tuesday 20th September

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are delighted to welcome you and your child to Nursery and to begin a successful year of learning. This half term we are focusing on supporting you and your child to settle into the setting and to start their journey with us so that it is a positive and happy experience. It is going to be an exciting year together!

| The Froglets Team |
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| Class Teacher - Emma Wregg and Lia Moss White |
| Early Years Practitioners - Hayeser, Abu, Stefania, Georgia, Susannah, Edina |
| Higher Level Teaching Assistants - Heather, Isabel, Sandra & Maggie |

Meet the Teacher

For more information about the team and Nursery we will be holding a Meet the Teacher meeting on **Wednesday 28th September at 9:00am**. We look forward to seeing you there.

Punctuality & Attendance

It continues to be really important that children arrive and are collected promptly. Attendance is compulsory for all children, but we understand that some absences may occur. Regular contact and communication to our office about illness and medical appointments is crucial.

START OF THE DAY - A reminder that we have returned to the *Soft Start* system at the beginning of the school day. All children will be welcomed through the main gate between **8:45 - 9:00am** each morning. **After 9:00am the gate will be closed** and any latecomers will need to come through the main school office. **Afternoon children start at 12:25pm**. Please wait outside the main office where a member of the team will come and collect your child.

END OF THE DAY - Children will be in the playground when the gates open at **3:25pm**.

Morning children finish at 11:45am. Please wait outside the main office, a member of the team will bring your child to you.

Office: 0207 772 8500 or email admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk

Curriculum

We will be adapting the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum continually this half term and beyond to meet the needs and interests of our children, whilst ensuring we provide a broad and balanced range of experiences. We will be focusing on the three Prime Areas: Communication and Language, Personal,

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Social and Emotional Development and Physical Development. As well as the four Specific Areas: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Art and Design.

This half term we will be focusing on the story;

'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell

We will be supporting the children to settle into their new environments and giving them time to get to know their new adults and peers.

Reading

We want our children to develop a love of reading and stories from the very start of their schooling. We have a book corner in our classroom where the children will be able to select books and read during the day independently, in groups and with an adult.



We will be starting our weekly class library day every **Tuesday**. Please make sure your child has a Primrose Hill book bag. These can be purchased on the **schoolmoney website**. Please bring your book bag to school every Tuesday, where your child will choose a new book to take home for the week. As reading is a priority for all children, the school has invested in **Reading Eggs**, an online reading programme. We will be sending out details about how to access this over the next few weeks.

Mystery Reader and Stay and Plays

In Froglets, we will be holding a **stay and play session every Tuesday morning 8:45 until 9:15 am**, where you will have the opportunity to explore the classroom, play, and read a story with your child. This will start on **Tuesday 27th September**.

Every Friday we have a Mystery Reader at 3pm. A mystery reader can be mums, dads, grandparents and other special friends. We keep their identity a secret to build anticipation and excitement. The class teachers will give the children clues as they arrive to build the excitement! It is a wonderful opportunity for you to come into the class and read the class a story of your choice and in your home language. If you are interested, please let one of the team know.

Start of the day

A member of the Nursery team will open the door and welcome your child into the learning environment each morning. The transition to Nursery begins your child's journey to independence, so we will be encouraging your children to take ownership of small everyday tasks, for example, hanging their coat up and self-registering themselves each day.



Liaison time

We know that communication with you is key in establishing a positive and safe learning environment. We will be around at the end of each day for a chat. Please don't hesitate to come and talk to one of us, we are here to support you and your child. If you are unable to come to school to talk to us, please contact the school office and ask to make an appointment to speak with us.

Dressing for Froglets

As the days begin to become cooler and wetter, please ensure your child comes to school every day in a long sleeved coat, preferably with a hood or hat. We use the outside area every day so children need to be able to wrap up warm. We encourage you to dress your child in clothes that are practical for an Early Years setting. For example, shoes with Velcro fastenings at school until they are able to tie their own shoe laces. Please ensure your child's clothing is **named**.



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Spare clothes

Every child needs to have a **spare and named change of clothes** to be left in school, hanging on their peg. Children may get wet or dirty from one of the exciting learning experiences we enjoy in EYFS! Please can we ask for them to be in a soft fabric/plastic bag due to limited space on their peg.



Water and fruit

We provide fruit for the children, though each child will need their own **named bottle of water** each day. We will be able to refill them when needed. If you would like to donate a couple of extra pieces of fruit a week to the classroom that would be gratefully received.



Healthy Eating and Malleable Play

Cooking with children offers a wide variety of learning experiences, for example Numeracy, Communication and Language, Understanding the World and Physical Development can all be taught in one cooking session. To help support this, we ask for a **voluntary contribution of 50p a week (£7.50 a term)** where we will be able to buy the ingredients and resources needed. **This is payable through your SchoolMoney account. Under 'payments' you will find 'EYFS Class Donation Autumn 2022' for £7.50.** If you were unable to make this contribution last half term, we would be really grateful if this could be **paid by Friday 23rd September**. We really appreciate your support, thank you!

Toys at school

Please remind your child that we discourage them from bringing in their own toys to school. They can easily be lost or broken and this causes much upset. This is especially important during this time when bringing additional objects from home can increase risk.

Tapestry

This is an online journal to help record your child's time at school. We send pictures and videos to you at the end of every half term. We also use this as a way of communicating with you. You can also post us videos and photos of the exciting things your child does at home. We will be sending home a letter in the next couple of weeks letting you know how to access your child's learning journal.



Website

For further information, please make sure you regularly check the school website www.primrosehill.sch.uk

We have also placed a link to a document called *What to Expect, When* for you to look at. It details how children develop from Birth to 5 and gives some really useful pointers about ways to support your child's development at home:

<https://foundationyears.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/What-to-expect-in-the-EYFS-complete-FINAL-16.09-compressed.pdf>

As part of Camden's Safeguarding policy, please remember to refrain from using your mobile phone when on the school grounds. We really appreciate your support with this for the safety of the children.



And finally...

A reminder that our aim is for your child to become a confident, motivated and independent learner. Remind them to 'have a go' at things they find difficult. Try to refrain from doing things for them and tell

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them 'you can do it'. Remember that mistakes are marvelous and are the way we learn how to do things. Praise all of your child's successes and encourage them to make decisions and choices about the experiences and learning they do outside of school.

We look forward to sharing the exciting year ahead with you all. If you have ANY questions or want to find out more, please speak to myself or any of the team.

Many thanks,
Emma, Lia and the Froglets Team

Communication and Language

Talk with your family about something new that you have learnt. Was it exciting? What was easy or hard about it?

Talk about feelings. What does it feel like to start something new. Use the words for the different emotions and how we all feel a mixture of emotions.

Numeracy

Play car colour spotting when you are out and about. How many different colours can you spot? Can you spot an orange car? Which car colour did you spot most often?

Collect together your toys and have a go at sorting them. Are they big or small? Soft or hard? Green, Blue or red? How many ways can you find to sort them?

Play a pattern game with someone at home. You could make your pattern with anything you like. A fruit pattern might be orange, apple, orange, apple... What comes next? Can they spot the pattern you have made? Can you continue their pattern?

Literacy

Help to write shopping list before you go shopping.

Can you play nursery with your toys. Have a go at making self register cards for them and help them find the right one. What else will they do at school today?

What signs can you spot when you are on your way to school? What are they for?

Understanding of the World

Go on an adventure to the woods/park/forest and see how many different birds you can spot.

Can you help at home with cooking? What ingredients will you use?

Find out some fun facts about owls.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Practise taking turns in a game with your family. Play eye spy something... and choose a colour.

Enjoy telling stories about your day over dinner or breakfast. Share the best and worst parts of your day and why. Its good to talk!

Here are the seven areas of learning and development in the Early Years Foundation Stage. In each of the boxes, you will find some useful ideas on home learning! Our Focus this half term is the story of "Owl Babies" and "starting nursery"

Physical Development

Practise taking on and off your coat. Can you do it without any help? What sound does the zip or the buttons make?

Practice jumping. Can you jump from one pavement square to the next with both feet together?

Practice rolling a ball with someone at home. How far can you roll it? Can you catch it when they roll it?

Expressive arts and Design

Teach your family a new song you have learnt at nursery.

Use some recycled materials to make an owl. What could you use to make the eyes? What shape are they?

Have a go at telling a story to your family? It could be one you have made up or one that you have heard.

Make props to help you tell your story.

What sound does an owl make?