



Ditton Nursery School

Aspiring Foundations Federated Nursery Schools

Spring Term 2

Dates for your diary

Monday 13th April—School Reopens

Monday 20th April—SEND Parents Evening

Monday 11th—Thursday 14th May—Stay and Play Sessions

Monday 4th May—Bank Holiday
School closed

Tuesday 19th May—Wellbeing Picnic

Friday 22nd May - Last day of term

Dear Families,

It has been lovely to see the children growing in confidence this term and engaging in lots of fun learning experiences. One of the highlights has been watching our chicks hatch from their eggs. It was so special to see the excitement on the children's faces and the 'buzz' it created in nursery. Parents, staff and children were all involved!

The children have also enjoyed celebrations for World Book Day and a visit to Croxteth farm. They have approached these events with such enthusiasm and I grateful for the continued support parents and carers show towards our additional curriculum events.

We extend a warm welcome to our new children who have joined us this term, and what a fun term to start in with so many learning opportunities.

Finally, I would like to thank our dedicated and hard-working staff team for their ongoing commitment to the school.

Wishing you all a fun Easter break!

Best Wishes

Liane Johnson (Executive Headteacher)

2 Year Olds

This half term we have had lots of fun exploring our big question 'What do we see at the farm?' One of the most exciting experiences was watching chicks hatch from eggs and grow. The children were fascinated by the process and loved observing the changes each day. We learned how to care for the chicks properly, talking about what they need to stay healthy and safe. The highlight for many of us was getting the chance to gently hold them—what an amazing experience! We then brought our big question to life by visiting Croxteth Park Farm. This was an exciting opportunity for the children to be hands-on with the animals, getting up close to see them and even feed some of them. The children were full of excitement and curiosity as they explored the farm and learned more about the different animals that live there. It was a wonderful experience and a fantastic opportunity for real-life learning. We have also focused on our key text 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. The children have enjoyed bringing the story to life by exploring the different settings in the story; we even created the cave at the end for the bear! We have also had some wonderful events this half term, we celebrated World Book Day and the children enjoyed sharing their favourite stories and celebrating the joy of reading together. We also had our Stay and Play session, which was a great opportunity for parents to come into the classroom, play alongside their children, and see how we support them in their learning and development. It has been a very busy, but exciting half term for everyone. We hope you all have a lovely and relaxing Easter break!

Photo Gallery



3 - 4 Year Olds

What a jam-packed short term! I think we are all ready for our Easter break and hopefully, to enjoy drier days and the promising signs of Spring! Our topic this half term has been 'What happens on a farm?' and we have immersed ourselves in learning through many activities. The first exciting arrival were our eggs. We wondered what would come from them and watched them daily. We were extremely lucky to have ten out of ten chicks hatch and were able to see them breaking out with their beaks! We held them and watched as they grew, their feathers dried and their 'cheeps' become noisier! Our Stay and Play sessions were very well attended and our focus was on Maths, counting and recognising numerals, alongside finding more, less and the same. We were very proud of the children and the knowledge they shared with you. We also continued sharing our love for books and reading by celebrating World Book Day, coming dressed up as a favourite character and bringing in books to share. In addition to that, we invited our local librarian into school to share some lovely stories about.. You guessed it—Farms! Visiting Croxteth Hall Farm was a great opportunity to reinforce what we have been learning in a hands-on environment. We saw, fed or touched cows, sheep, lambs, horses, goats, pigs plus rabbits and guinea pigs. It was wonderful to hear the children using the vocabulary linked to our farm topic and talk about their developing knowledge of farms. Many of our activities this half term have involved you, our parents, and it is wonderful to share our learning with you. Thank you so much for all your support—it is so important to your children and to us.

Photo Gallery



Stay and Play Sessions

We have had a really positive response to our stay and play sessions this half term based on Maths.

We look forward to welcoming everybody again in the next half term.

Attendance Hero of the half term!

To be entered into our half termly draw, you need to have at least one week of 100% attendance in that half term.

WELL DONE OLIVER B!



Governor Spotlight and Updates:

We have recently appointed a new board member, Matthew Meazza. Watch this space for their spotlight in the next newsletter!

We also have a new Vice Chair, Maxine Owen.

Thank you to all governors for their support to our school and our Federation.

Charity Donation – Hop for the Haven!

We would like to thank all of our children for joining in with our Hope for the Haven challenge. As a Nursery School you have raised **£979.99!** We managed to raise **£2273.49** across the Federation. This will help Halton Haven Hospice to support patients and their families during worrying and challenging times. Thank you, as always for your wonderful help and support.





Wraparound Care



Wrap around care is available 8am—5pm. If you would like a space, or to enquire about prices, please speak to Catherine or Lisa in the school office or email reception@affns.co.uk. Our nursery staff run these sessions, and the children have a varied breakfast and a variety of healthy snack options for after school. If you would like to see a menu, please contact the office, or view the website.

2-Year-Old Funding

With new government guidelines, from April 2024, working parents may be able to receive 15 funded hours. To check eligibility please visit <https://www.haltonfamilyhubs.co.uk> and select Early Years For more information regarding places, please contact the school office.

Attendance

It is very important for children to come to school every day, so they are not missing out on important learning and the exciting things we have planned. If your child is not well, please get in contact to let us know.



Green (97%+) is good attendance



Amber (91-96%) is cause for concern



Red (below 90%) is poor

Snack Money for this half term is

Can we remind parents that snack is in addition to your child's nursery funding. Please pay for snacks for this current half term if you haven't already done so.

Payments can be made: Half Termly - £10.00 Termly - £20.00 Full Year—£60.00



Payments

Can we ask that all payments (snack money, trip money etc) are paid into the nursery school bank account or through the School Spider app. Please ensure all payments are clearly identified with your child's name and details.



Contacts

Telephone: 0151 424 4687

Email: sec@affns.co.uk

Or alternatively, message us through the Spider Parent App

Dropping off & Picking up Times

A reminder for all parents and family members to follow the drop off and pick up times. The purpose of this is so the groups are not continually disturbed during the session

Drop Off

9.00 am

12.45pm

Pick Up

12pm

3.45pm

Privacy Notice

Please find the privacy notice relating to data protection on our noticeboard and website.

Disabled Car Park Spaces

Please do not park in these spaces unless you are registered disabled and are displaying your blue badge. Staff will challenge anyone who is parking here unless they can see badge displayed and you will be asked to move.



Yellow Zig Zag Parking

Please do not park outside of nursery school on the yellow zigzags. These lines are for the safety of all the children.

