

# Artemis Newsletter February 2017



## 30 Hours Free Childcare - September 2017

The government is introducing 30 hours of free childcare for some three and four year olds from September 2017. It will be available for working parents who both earn the equivalent of working 16 hours at the minimum wage.

Although it feels like ages away we want to give our parents time to plan their future working arrangements over the coming months to make the most of the free 30 hours childcare for their 3 and 4 year olds. 30 hours each week will give parents much more opportunity to balance their working hours, days and weeks each year and be better off in terms of work-life balance, or financially, due to more free childcare hours. We also need to plan as a nursery so we can ensure we can accommodate everyone increasing their hours who wish to. Please can you complete the attached form and return to your child's nursery ASAP.

We will be offering 30 hours across 38 weeks and can work out an average payment plan for anyone wishing to spread the cost of the remaining 13 weeks.

## Contact Details

Emma Buggy 07590850491 [artemischildcare@btconnect.com](mailto:artemischildcare@btconnect.com)

If you cannot contact me at the nurseries it usually means I'm in meetings, but you are more than welcome to phone my mobile and leave a message and I shall return your call as soon as I can. Alternatively you could email me.

If your query relates directly to your child's nursery then below are the contact numbers you need for each setting. If your child is not coming into nursery, we ask that you phone the nursery to inform them at your earliest convenience.

Beth Wenden is across all sites [beth.artemis@btconnect.com](mailto:beth.artemis@btconnect.com)

Sarah Moran at Artemis St Leonards 01424461188 [artemisstleonards@btconnect.com](mailto:artemisstleonards@btconnect.com)

Yasmin Gurr at Artemis Hastings 01424426178 [artemishastings@btconnect.com](mailto:artemishastings@btconnect.com)

Nicky Williams at Artemis Hollington 01424853836 [artemishollington@btconnect.com](mailto:artemishollington@btconnect.com)

## Nursery Fees

Fees must be paid in advance in order to fund the care, food, equipment, and staffing that we, as a functioning nursery, are required to provide throughout the month.

If you are struggling to make payments it is always appreciated if you contact us to discuss a payment plan.

Invoices are now emailed to parents. If you are not receiving them please let your child's Nursery Manager know and they can pass your details to our Finance Team.

## Parking

Could we please ask that you show some consideration to our neighbours when parking your vehicles? We have had a few complaints and ask that you do not park across their driveways when dropping or collecting your children from nursery.

We are very lucky to have a car park at our Hollington site but it is very small and there is more parking available near Hollington Primary School.

## Arrivals & Departures

We have a strict adult:child ratio that we have to adhere to at all times so ask that you **do not** arrive for nursery **before** 8.00am or 1.00pm at Artemis St Leonards, Hastings and Hollington, unless previously arranged with Emma. Can I also ask that you arrive promptly at both **1.00pm** and **6.00pm** to collect your child? If you are going to be late for any reason please phone and let us know as soon as possible so we can let your child know and make arrangements for adults to stay with them.

Please can we ask that all of you to ensure that you **close** the nursery doors behind you and that you **don't** let anyone into the nursery buildings? We ask that you allow us to respond to the door as we need to keep **all** our children safe.

If we haven't met any family members or friends before, we will ask you for a password so we know who they are when they come to collect. Please could you tell a member of staff if somebody different is collecting so we are aware.

## Diarrhoea & Vomiting

The new guidance from the Health Protection Agency on infection control within nurseries is that you are advised to keep your child at home for **48 hours** after their last episode of either diarrhoea or vomiting to prevent it spreading through the nursery.

We appreciate it is sometimes difficult to diagnose as a bug in young children straight away but appreciate your cooperation in collecting your child if the need arises.

**Comic Relief**  
**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

During the week beginning **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017**, we will be hosting a fundraising event for Comic Relief. We are challenging you to wear as much **RED** as you can to nursery all week. We will also be having cake sales throughout the week, where we will be selling all the cakes we have made. Donations of cakes that you have made with family and friends would also be brilliant. Every penny from the money that we raise will go towards helping people and families struggling across the UK and Africa.

**Toilet Training**

When your child is toilet training at nursery it is important to provide lots of knickers/pants and trousers so that we are able to change your child if the need arises. It is **no** bother for us at all if your child has an accident whilst at nursery but they can become confused and upset if we have to put them back into a nappy because we don't have enough clothes to change them into.

We encourage children to explore their environment and engage in as many activities as they can during their time with us at nursery. So we ask that **all** children should have spare clothes on their peg in their Artemis bag at all times. If they have come home in their spare set of clothes these will then need to be replaced.



**WORLD BOOK DAY**

It is World Book Day on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 and we would like to invite all the children to dress up as their favourite book character or to bring in their favourite book to read with their friends at nursery. We will be celebrating Book Day all week so all our children can be involved.

**EYEE Funding Term Dates**

East Sussex fund 15 free hours for 38 weeks per year through the Early Years Education Entitlement. The term dates for the academic year September 2016 - July 2017 are:

**Spring Term**

9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 [11 weeks]

Half Term 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017 - 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**Summer Term**

17<sup>th</sup> April 2017 - 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017 [13 weeks]

Half Term 29<sup>th</sup> May 2017 - 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017

**Signing your Child In & Out**

Please can you ensure that you sign your child both in and out of the nursery every day they attend please, stating your name and time of arrival or collection? It is a requirement for us to keep a record of who has attended and during what times.

**St George's Day**   
**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2017**

On the week commencing Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2017, we will be celebrating St George's Day, the Patron Saint of England. Throughout the week we will be creating our very own flags, dancing to folk music and making traditional English foods.

**Headlice**

We have had a couple of cases of head lice at the Nursery and would ask you all to check your child's hair thoroughly. We need to ALL check our hair and treat if any headlice are found. For us to be successful in stopping the spread any further we ALL need to do this.

If any headlice are found the best way to treat them is to use conditioner and a nit comb and comb through your child's hair immediately. Please be aware that this will need to be done until all the eggs have hatched and it is not enough just to do it once, this could take up to a week. We appreciate that this can be both costly and time consuming but is necessary to ensure we minimise future cases.

As your children are in close contact during their time at nursery we ask that you check your child's hair regularly and introduce it as part of their hair washing routine.

**Dates for your Diaries**

There are a few dates for your diaries which you will be reminded of throughout the year.

**Bring your Parent or Grandparents to Nursery Week.**

**Week Commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017**

We would like to invite you to come and spend some time with your child at nursery. You can see how beautifully they all play and learn together. You are welcome to join us for breakfast, lunch or tea too so you can taste the beautiful food on offer.

**Parent's Evening**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

This is a chance for you to meet your child's Key Worker to find out how they are learning and developing at nursery. A time sheet will go up in the classrooms on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017**. If you are unable to make this day then please speak to your child's Key Worker who will be happy to arrange an alternative day and time convenient for everyone.

**Pirate Week**

**Week Commencing 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

We will be celebrating Hastings Pirates' Day and having pirate parties and treasure hunts with the children. Your children are welcome to come dressed as pirates.