



The Portsmouth Grammar School Nursery,  
High Street,  
Portsmouth,  
PO1 2LN  
Head of Nursery  
Mrs. L. Johnson  
24 April 2009

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Summer Term. I hope you all had a very enjoyable Easter break. May I also welcome the children who have joined Nursery this week.

The theme this term is 'Toys'. This week the focus has been on 'Small World Toys'. The children have been talking about happenings during the holidays, making huge train tracks in the construction area, and developing 'Three Bears Cottage' in the imaginative room.

Next week, our attention changes to 'Teddy Bears'. The children will continue to play in the 'Three Bears Cottage', and will be having a small 'Teddy Bears Picnic' on Thursday morning. Please continue to look at home for items with the initial sound 'y' and bring them in for the interest table, and also a teddy for the week. Discourage other toys as they can get lost or damaged. Don't forget to label everything clearly so that it can be returned safely.

**Holiday Care** – A fantastic time was had by all. The children really enjoyed walks out in the local area. They had snack on the beach – taking advantage of the lovely weather. A big thanks must go to Martyn's mum for helping on the trip to the dockyard. On the final day a fabulous party was enjoyed – the treasure hunt was a big success with many children winning prizes. Thanks to all the parents who contributed party food.

The Holiday Care team led by Miss Paterson are already looking forward to the half term break – keep your eyes peeled as more fun and exciting happenings are planned! To book a place see Mrs Heyes!

**Library books** – Please use the Nursery Book Area like a library. Sign books in and out using the folder in the Book Area. The books are catalogued by colour in order that your children can select and return books easily for themselves. Staff members are always available to give any help you need.

### **Sun hats and sun cream**

The hot weather this week has taken by surprise and made us consider carefully our arrangements for protecting your children against the harmful effects of the sun. The children play outdoors for long periods of time each day – so please make it a priority to apply sun cream prior to attending nursery each day. If at all possible apply ALL DAY CREAM and let Wendy know that you have done so. Applying ALL DAY CREAM allows your child to spend longer playing outside in the nice weather. Thank you.

### **Increasing sessions**

As spaces are very limited for the years 2008/ 2009/ 2010 – please let Wendy know as soon as possible if you would like to increase attendance. You will be placed on a waiting list and sessions allocated as they become available. Thank you.

**Packed Lunches** – as the weather is getting hot, please put an ice pack around all perishable items or make arrangements to name and put them in the fridge. Thank you.

**Collecting children** – please can I remind you that collection times are 11.45 a.m, 12.45 p.m, and 4 p.m. Whilst there is some flexibility during the nursery day, these are important transition times when children are arriving and departing – please be prompt as ratios of staff are organised to meet the number of children booked into the session. If you are unavoidably detained in traffic or medical emergency etc, then please contact me as soon as you can so that ongoing care arrangements can be made. There is a charge for late collection - £5 for each 15 minutes.

**Finkley Down Farm Park** – Tuesday 30 June. The whole nursery is going to Finkley Down by coach for a fun day out – more details later. However I will need lots of adult help for the trip to be successful. If you are able to accompany this trip and are willing to complete a CRB clearance, please let me know as soon as possible. Thank you very much indeed.

### **Important dates for your Diary:**

Monday 4 May – Bank Holiday – Nursery closed.

Wednesday 12 May – Coffee morning from 8.30 a.m– Usborne Books will be on sale.

Wednesday 20 May 2<sup>nd</sup> Site photographer will be taking photos during free play – for you to purchase.

Friday 22 May – End of first half term.

Monday 25 May – Bank Holiday – Nursery closed.

Tuesday 26 May – Friday 29 May – Half Term Holiday Care – packed lunches needed.

Monday 1 June – Second half of term commences.

Tuesday 9 June – Zoolab will visit nursery with a range of mini beasts.

Thursday 11 June – Parent / staff social

Friday 19 June – Birds of Prey are visiting Junior School and will call into nursery during the day.

Thursday 25 June – Festivities week – Tall Stories Theatre Company in DRT to which Nursery are invited.

Friday 26 June – Big Toddle

Sunday 28 June – JSA Summer Fete

Tuesday 30 June – Visit to Finkley Down Farm Park

Tuesday 14 July – Presentation to those leaving the Nursery for reception classes.

Thursday 16 July – end of term for Junior School

Friday 17 July – packed lunch needed.

W/C 20 July – packed lunches needed.

Tuesday 21 July – Nursery End of Term

Wednesday 22 July – Holiday Care commences

Have a very happy weekend.

Lois Johnson.