

SURBITON HILL NURSERY SCHOOL

AUTUMN 2 NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2025

Welcome back after the half term holiday. It was lovely to see how the children have returned with smiling faces and an eagerness to see their friends and join in the activities in the nursery.

The children have enjoyed learning about Autumn, Fireworks and Diwali and are finding out more about light and dark, the season changes and nocturnal animals. The children have also been finding out about Remembrance Day.

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting many of you and your families at the Welly Walk and Cake Sales, which were a huge success. We were very lucky with the weather! We are still counting the returned sponsorship money. Thank you for your generosity and taking the time to attend the fundraiser and bring in cakes. I will update you on the total amount raised once it has all been collected. Please drop any donations in to the office or you can make a bank transfer to our school fund account:

Surbiton Hill Nursery School

Sort code: 20-46-73

A/C number: 30035483

I have just sent out the "Starting Nursery Feedback" survey via Tapestry. We really appreciate you taking the time to tell us what we are doing well but also what we need to consider so we can be even better.

With that in mind, in December, we will be sharing with you all some of our plans linked to the feedback we receive.

This half term is always a busy one and before we know it Christmas will be here. We have arranged for a variety of activities to take place during the festive season. All the dates are listed in this newsletter on pages 4 and 5. More details will also follow.

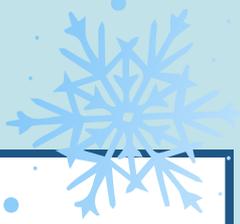
We are pleased that so many of you have signed up to use Tapestry and thank you for the lovely updates which have already been sent in. There is still time to sign up if you haven't already done so. It is an excellent way of finding out what your child has been learning in school.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Best wishes

Esther White

LEARNING & CURRICULUM



OUTDOOR LEARNING AT SHN

As the weather gets colder, we remind you that children will need to **wear warm clothing and waterproofs** every day. We spend a lot of the session outdoors so the children will need to be well dressed. The outside environment provides authentic experiences which enhance the children's learning and development. Research shows that children need up to 3 hours of physical activity every day when they are under 5 years old and we try to ensure that they experience as much of that time in the fresh air as they can.

Please remember to name all items.

LOOSE PARTS AND RECYCLED MATERIALS

We use open ended resources for the children to build and create with and we are always on the look out for more!

If you have any of the following, please let us know so we can add them to our resource base:

Cable reels, cardboard boxes, saucepans and used utensils, treated wood (planks), log slices, unusual trinkets (no tiny parts) and corks.

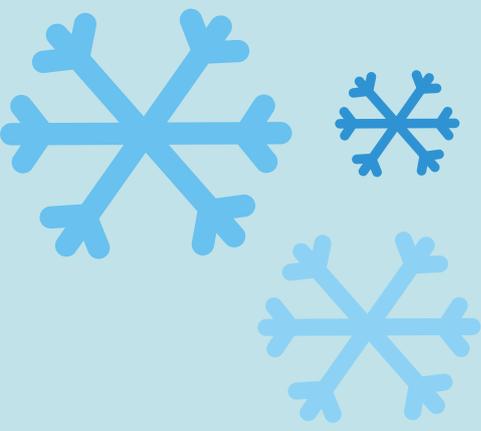
We are also looking for toys for our sandpit, for example, diggers, spades, rakes, etc.

ATTACHMENT AWARE AWARDS

As a school, we have been on a journey of learning about the importance of understanding how attachment and nurture affects brain development. We use emotion coaching as a way to support behaviour and to help young children develop emotional resilience.

We were recently awarded the Gold Attachment Aware Award and the ARC (Attachment Research Community) Alex Timpson Award as SE and London Regional winners. I am also delighted to announce that we have just been named the 2025 ARC Alex Timpson **National** award winners for Early Years.

Thank you to all of the school staff for their hard work and dedication to enable us to gain these awards. It is wonderful to gain this recognition nationally as well as locally.



PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2026

Children born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 are due to start primary school in September 2026.

You can apply for up to 6 schools using:

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk>

You can check on each school's website for their tour dates and it is worth having a look around all of your local schools. If your child has any special educational needs, you can also chat to the school SENCO to find out how children are supported.

Key questions you may wish to ask are:

What are the School's values?

How do they settle the children in to Reception?

What is a typical day for the children?

Does the school have any wrap around care?

What is the school behaviour policy?

Help

Thank you to those who attended the 'school applications' workshop with Esther and Jacqui this week. We hope you found it useful. If you would like any help with school applications, please pop in and make an appointment with Esther.



DIARY DATES



Wednesday 3rd December	Christmas Craft coffee morning at the Church for parents/carers Toddlers and babies welcome
Wednesday 3rd December	SW Music (Earthsong) workshop for children
Friday 5th December	Christmas Jumper day and Christmas Raffle
Saturday 6th December	Festival of Lights and Christmas Fair 3.30pm - 5pm
Tuesday 9 th December	Bees Festive Fun - Stay and Play for Bees children and parents/carers 3.45 - 4.45pm
Tuesday 9 th December - 2.30pm Thursday 11 th December - 11am	The Den children's Sing and Sign
Wednesday 10th December	School Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 17th December	Class parties and Santa's Grotto
Friday 19th December	Last day of term
Monday 22nd December 2025 - Friday 2nd January 2026	Christmas Break - school closed for Term Time Children
Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd December 8am-6pm Wednesday 24th December 8am-1pm Friday 2nd January 2026 8am-6pm	All Year Round Children Attending
Monday 5th January 2026	Spring Term 1 begins for all children

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY JANUARY 15TH 2026

CHRISTMAS

The festive season is fast approaching and we're excited about the events we have coming up.

Our main event is our **Festival of Lights and Christmas Fair** which is on **Saturday 6th December** from **3.30pm – 5pm**. Tickets on sale from the office from Monday 24th November - £2 per family.

Here's how you can help:

Volunteering: We need volunteers to assist on stalls. Your time makes a huge difference! Please let the office know if you are able to help

Prizes: Are you able to donate a prize to raffle or are you able to secure a prize from your employer or a local business?

Re-gifting: We host a re-gifting stall at the fair. If anyone has anything tucked away in their cupboards that we can sell, for example, gifts you may have received but won't use, please can we have them?

Christmas Bags: Fill up a paper bag (provided by us nearer the day) with sweets and trinkets, to be sold as 'mystery bags' at the fair

Own business: You could run a stall for £15

Your involvement, no matter how big or small, is invaluable. Thank you for your continued support.

Other Christmas events for your diary:

Wednesday 3rd December

Coffee Morning at the Church - Christmas Crafts

Wednesday 3rd December

Musical Workshop for the children

Friday 5th December

Christmas Jumper Day (donate £1.00 to Save the Children) and wear a festive outfit to school
Christmas Raffle

Saturday 6th December

Festival of Lights – Christmas Fair - 3.30pm to 5.00pm

Tickets available from the school office £2.00 per family from Monday 24th November

Tuesday 9th December

Bees Festive Fun - Stay and Play 3.45 - 4.45pm

Wednesday 10th December

Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 9th December 2.30pm/Thursday 11th December 11am

Den children Sing and Sign - parents/carers attend

Date TBC

Green Class singing around the Christmas Tree - children only

Wednesday 17th December

Class parties and Santa's Grotto

