

# October News

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## October Update

The Autumn weather is on the way!

We are now at the start of October. We will continue to be outdoors every day, exploring the change in the seasons, please make sure your child has a clearly labelled warm waterproof coat every day for school.

**IMPORTANT SECURITY INFORMATION:** The front door of the school does not close tightly unless it is pulled. This door **MUST** be closed tightly to ensure no unreported visitors come into the school or no children leave without an adult. It has been left open a few times over the past weeks, this is a serious security concern. Please make sure the door is pulled closed tightly every time. The bar should also be put across the small green gate at the front of the school. Please take 2 minutes to help the security of our school!

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### ABSENCES

If your child is off school please contact the office and let us know the reason.

2

### ILLNESS

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home. This helps us keep everyone healthy

3

### SAFETY

Please make sure to tightly close any doors/gates behind you as you enter/leave school



### Kids Nutrition

All parents/ grandparents/ carers are invited to our Kids Nutrition Talk on Monday at 7.15pm. Dr Natalie Lyner will be sharing ideas of how to support picky eaters and encourage children to try new foods.



### Running Late?

If you are going to be late to drop your child into school please bring them to the main, front door of the school (not their class gate) and ring the bell. A staff member will come collect them from the door.

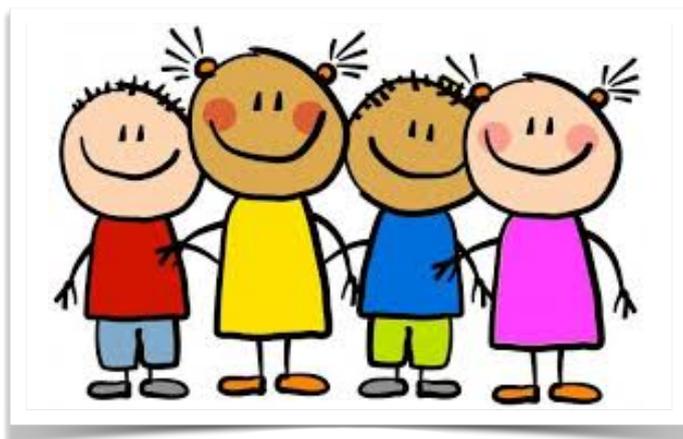
## Getting Ready to Learn Programme

Bangor Integrated Nursery School is part of Getting Ready to Learn a programme run by the Department of Education. It aims “to encourage and develop parental involvement in children's early learning by engaging and empowering parents to help them create and sustain positive home learning environments.”

We run four themes as part of our Getting Ready to Learn Programme - Education Works in Pre-School, Big Bedtime Read, Ages and Stages and Healthy Happy Kids. There will be different events for parents, resources sent home and things for the children throughout the year linking with these themes.

We receive a small amount of funding every year for Getting Ready to Learn. This is used to buy resources for the children to borrow from school - home learning bags as well as resources for the children to keep to use at home.

As part of the funding agreement we have to submit parent questionnaires twice a year. The first of these will be sent home early October.



## Focus Children

If your child is a focus child in Nursery please return the Parent's Information page and photos at the start of their focus week. This helps us get an insight into your child's life and allows you to ask any questions before the start of the week. Your child will be a focus child around three times in the year, roughly every 8 weeks or so.

When it is your child's turn we ask that you email a few recent photos of your child at home or out and about for us to chat about with them in class but if this is tricky for you please speak to your child's teacher and we can arrange alternative options for photos to be shared.

## SCHOOL MONEY - SCHOOL FUND AND DINNER MONEY PAYMENTS

Thank you to all the parents who promptly paid the Snack/School Fund. This Fund covers all enrichment activities (trips/visitors/baking/arts and crafts) in Nursery as well as Healthy Snack every daily. If your financial situation has changed and you are unable to cover this cost please speak to Miss Algie. We understand that during the climate at the moment some parents need additional flexibility and that is not a problem, just contact us to let us know.



## SCHOOL DINNERS - HEDGEHOG CLASS ONLY

School Dinners have started - dinners cost £12.50 every week for children in the full day class. If you think you might be eligible for Free School Meals please visit [www.freeschoolmealsanduniforms.eani.org.uk](http://www.freeschoolmealsanduniforms.eani.org.uk) If you have heard from EA that you are entitled to free school meals please forward your confirmation to the school office ASAP. Without confirmation we will have to ask for payment for meals consumed. If you pay for Meals please make sure your account is uploaded in advance for each week with the amount needed. We are not permitted to be in arrears in this account as it managed by the Education Authority directly.

## SONGS

In Nursery we sing a lot of songs with the children. Every month we will send a selection of these home in the newsletter so that you can sing them at home too. For songs you may not know - scan the qr code to open a video of the song. Some of the favourites from this month are:

### Grey Squirrel Song



### A hedgehog is very prickly



## Parent Teacher Meetings

We will be holding Parent Teacher Meetings in October for all classes. These are a great opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and hear about how they are settling in and ask any questions you might be wondering about. This year the Health Visitors are coming to school separately from the Parent Teacher Meetings (in previous years the 3+ review was at the same time as the parent teacher interview) so the meeting will take around 10-15 minutes. Meetings are held during the day, usually during your child's class time.

A preference sheet will be sent home for you to indicate what day suits you best. We will arrange the interviews based on these, so please return them promptly. We try to give every parent their first choice of day for interview.

Miss Hanna's interviews will be 16th - 20th October.

Miss Algie's will be 11th, 13th and 16th of October

If parents are not together and would prefer separate parent teacher meetings this can be arranged, please speak to your child's class teacher.

## Book Bags

Soon we will be sending home book bags for the children to borrow. This is part of the Big Bedtime Read theme of Getting Ready to Learn.

Each book bag has three or four books in it along with a sheet to remind you of the books that should be in it. We would ask that you please take good care of the books in the bag - we encourage them to be used as bedtime stories, shared with the children in their own beds. We will talk about this with the children in school.

Book Bag return reminders will be sent home on Seesaw as each class may have slightly different schedules.

It's really important to return the book bags on time. If you forget to return your child's book bag your child may not get one the following week. It may also mean there aren't enough book bags to share among the class so we may not be able to lend any that week.

If any of the books in the book bag are damaged please let the class teacher know as we will try and repair/replace it before lending it out to the next family.

The children usually really enjoy the book bags - we hope you will too!

## Upcoming Dates for your Diary...

### Ark Open Farm Visit - Fri 13th Oct

Lorraine from the Ark Open Farm will be visiting us with the Autumn Animal Roadshow on **Friday 13th October**. This visit is paid from the Snack/Enrichment fund so there is no additional cost for most parents, for parents who have not yet paid school fund for the month there will be a cost of £5.

### Hedgehog Class - Shared Ed Trip - Wed 25th Oct

Our school is a shared education partner with Trinity Nursery School. The Shared Education Programme encourages partnership between different schools between staff, children and parents. As part of this programme the Hedgehog Class will be going to Bangor Walled Garden with the classes from Trinity Nursery School on **Wednesday 25th October**. A similar trip will be arranged for the part time classes at a later date.

### Holiday Dates - Half Term - 30th Oct - 3rd Nov

**Halloween Half Term Break** - The school is closed **Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November**  
School will restart for all classes on **Monday 6th November**.

### Parent's First Aid Course - Tues 7th Nov, 6pm - 8.30pm

Tuesday 7th November, 6pm - 8.30pm we are hosting a parent's first aid training course. This will cost £15 per parent. At the end each parent will receive a paediatric first aid certificate. Places are limited for this training but if there is a high level of interest we can run it again later in the year.

## School Contact Details

If you need to contact the school, the best method is to email us. The phones will be answered during the day if possible, but as we are busy with the children you may need to leave a message on the answering machine. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please note that the school text messaging service and seesaw comments are not always monitored so should not be used to contact the teachers.

**Telephone: 02891469241**

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