



Ghanshyam Nursery School

*'laying the foundations for life'*

*We strive to provide the highest quality childcare facilities and personnel for the social, personal, cultural and religious advancement of the child*

## Autumn 2 - 2023 Newsletter

The children have settled well in the nursery since September. They are familiar with the routine and expectations and are keen to learn and join in all aspect of Ghanshyam Nursery life. I would like to thank all the parents, staff and children for making our two evening events successful – Navratri and Halloween. We have received few feedback and we will aim to improve on the suggestions provided for future events.

Unfortunately, we've had some staff leave. This has required us to make some operational changes, sometimes on a daily basis to ensure that the staff to child ratio is met. We are continuously looking to recruit staff and thank you for having patience and understand. It's important to note that there is a national acute shortage of qualified EYFS staff and Ghanshyam Nursery is not prone to it.

We are temporarily changing our pickups process, where the parents will now pick their child from outside the respective classrooms. The staff member will bring out your child along with their belongings. We ask the parents to stay clear of the door. Some children have been getting upset when some parents have been picking their child early. This changes are made due to interruptions in the classes. Children must be picked up by 5:00pm. Also in the next two months, we will be doing class moves and transitions but they will not happen overnight. Each child is different and we will start transitions from one hour a day and slowly increase them to full days. This might take couple of days or weeks depending on the child's settlement. Transitions can be difficult for some children and the setting has to consider many factors that the parents may not be aware.

## What we will be learning

Last term, the children learnt about all about me, their feelings, their houses, their parents and immediate family, which has been extended to learning their festivals this term. We are in process of learning about Diwali and Black History Month followed by Hanukkah, Bodhi day and Christmas. Our staff are converting a room to Winter wonderland to give the children the real feel of christmas for Santa grotto and the outdoors to Christmas market. They will be exploring a lot of Mathematics, literacy and real world experiences. At home, please have those effective communications with them and practice lot of writing and readiness activities to improve their oracy skills. This term, we are concentrating in recognising fruits and shapes for Bluebell; letters for Tulip; Sunflower 1 and Sunflower 2. Please see the parents notice boards outside the classes for further information.



### **SCHOOL CLOSED**

The nursery will be closed on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
(Hindu New Year) and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November (Staff training).

### **BIRTHDAYS**



## Harrow Council Funding Hours

It is very important that parents understand the funding process:

1. A parent must have a valid eligibility code for the term they are applying for funding. Codes must be requested PRIOR to the start of a term. If a code is applied for during a term it will only be valid the following term;
2. It is the responsibility of the parents to make sure they have **valid codes** in place for each term and not the Nursery;
3. Please note the below table as to when a child is entitled to funding. Just because they have a code / have turned 3 does not mean they are entitled to funding;
4. **The attached parent declaration needs to be completed by all parents. This is only required for the First Term they apply for funding.**
5. The child must be present during headcount week each term. If they are not present, their funding may be withdrawn / adjusted by Harrow Council
6. If a child starts part-term from another nursery, we need to confirm how many hours have already been claimed for. We then need to apply to Harrow Council for the additional funding.
7. The council provides funding for 30 hours per week for 38 weeks of the year (during school term time). We are open for 45 hours a week and 51 weeks a year. Therefore, the funding is applicable between the months of September to July.


**Below is further information on funding from Harrow Council:**

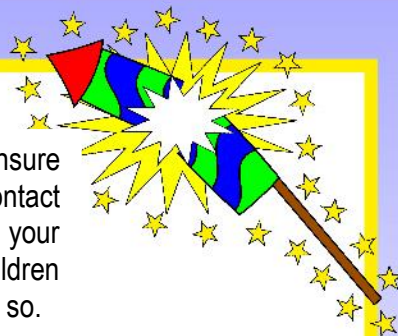
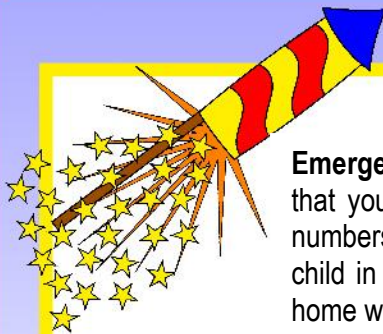
[3 and 4 year olds – Free early education and childcare – London Borough of Harrow](#)

### When will my child be eligible for the free entitlement?

Your child becomes eligible from the start of the term after they become 3 years old.

Child born between	Term they can start
1 September and 31 December is eligible from January	Spring Term
1 January and 31 March is eligible from April	Summer Term
1 April and 31 August is eligible from September	Autumn Term

Children of working parents/carers may qualify for an additional 15 hours a week, 30 hours in total. This will be dependent on whether parents/carers meet the national eligibility criteria. Find out if you qualify for 30 hours free childcare using the [Government's Childcare Calculator](#) 



**Emergency contacts:** Can I remind all parents to ensure that you are providing the nursery with the correct contact numbers and names for all the adults who can pick up your child in an emergency. We are unable to send the children home with anyone that you have not authorised us to do so.

**Children's clothing:**

Please provide appropriate clothing for the colder season, this includes wellies and jackets (ideally water proof). The children will be going out in all weathers to make sure they get fresh air during their time at the setting. We do not want any children to miss out due to not having appropriate clothing. Please ensure that all of your child's clothing is clearly labelled with their name as the clothing items are getting mixed up.

**Children with temperatures:**

A polite reminder, that if your child has or develops a temperature within the nursery, they will not be allowed at the nursery the next day. This is to help keep all the children safe and reduce cross infection. The same applies to diarrhoea. Please refer to our Managing Children who are Sick, Infectious or with Allergies Policy (separate attachment).

**Parent Partnership**

On the weekend, children tend to do fun and exciting things, whether it is attending a party, learning something new at home or hearing exciting news about their own family. As we approach various festivals of light and celebrate festivals across many religions, this is an opportunity for the children to understand about other culture and increase their culture capital skills. Can I please request parents share these with us via email, sending us pictures and a short description of your adventures.

**Message from the Governors**

We are in the process of developing a dedicated website for Ghanshyam Education Trust. Watch the space.

**TEMPLE VOLUNTEERS AND ABUSIVE BEHAVIOUR**

SKSS Temple is successful due to the sheer army of selfless volunteers that provide their invaluable time every day of the week. The aim of these volunteers is to give back and benefit the local community. **We have received complaints from our car park and security volunteers that a very few parents from the nursery and the Saturday Gujarati School have started abusing the temple facilities by parking on the wheel chair bays; stopping and waiting on the double yellow lines; going the wrong way round in the car park and not following the one-way system; blocking other cars; parking on the ramp; reverse parking etc. When our volunteers have tried to talk to these few parents, the response has been rude and in some cases verbally abusive. In one case, a Gujarati School parent had blocked two cars, sat in the vehicle despite having car parking spaces and waited for 20 minutes whilst his partner went shopping! One nursery parent parked on the ramp and another exited the wrong way during one of the evening event. In both these occasions, the volunteers were verbally abused! This behaviour is both unacceptable and against our temple and trust ethos and will not be tolerated! Please note that if this continues to be a reoccurring incident with the same parents, your child's place in both the nursery and the Gujarati School will be at risk. The car park and security will be keeping a log of such behaviour. Please make use of the car park at the rear and drop of your child safely.**

We thank you for your understanding and continuous support.

**WE WISH YOU A HAPPY DIWALI AND NUTAN VARSH ABHINANDAN.**