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Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017

## Early Years Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

We cannot believe it is half term already, even though there have been lots of bleary eyes this week to highlight the need for a rest! Firstly, we wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and for trusting us with your lovely children, we feel so very proud of how well they have settled and how much progress they have made already. As we move into the second half of the autumn term, we wanted to remind you of a few things that will be in place once you come back to school on the 30<sup>th</sup> October.

### Start of Day Arrangements

As mentioned in the newsletter last week, we ask that you no longer accompany your child into the classroom each morning. Instead, it would support us and your child's independence to wait at the bottom of the decking as you would do after school; once we open the doors, a member of staff will come and collect the children. In the same way, if your child has forgotten something at the end of the day can you ask them to come back independently to collect what they need rather than an adult coming in with them. A huge part of our role in Early Years is fostering independence and this change will help hugely with the progress the children make in this area. There will, of course, be members of staff on hand within the classrooms to help the children locate things or to provide distraction if they need it. If you do need to catch us at the start or end of the day, then this is absolutely fine but we may ask you to wait until the initial rush of children arriving/leaving is over.

### PE Kits in school

We have finally taken the plunge and started getting changed for PE/Yoga each week and so far we have been very impressed with the speed most children are getting themselves dressed and undressed. Therefore, it is important that after half term that your child has their PE kit in school every day.

### Reading Books

The children are now beginning to be given reading books. Once your child brings one home please read the accompanying letters carefully as they will help you to support your child at home and if you have any questions about how best to do this then please do speak to one of us.

### Outdoor Early Years Area

Finally, the Early Years Team will be coming in over the half term holiday to continue to improve our outside area for the children to use and play. Please could we remind you that no children or siblings should be touching, playing with or climbing on any of the Early Years resources at the start or end of the day. We set things out specifically for learning throughout the day and

work hard to tidy up at the end of the day and it would help us hugely if things were not moved or played with.

Once again thank you all for your support, and may we wish you all a very happy and restful half term.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read 'N Mackie', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

*Mrs. Nikki Mackie*  
*Head of Learning – Early Years*