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| November 2018Dear Parents and Carers, We hope you all enjoyed the run around the park today and many thanks for making and buying cakes! **IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!** LAST DAY OF TERM for the Nursery and Nest– WEDNESDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2018 Nursery and Nest RE-OPEN – THURSDAY 3rd JANUARY 2019.  **Wednesday 5th December – Xmas Story Trail** All nursery parents who drop off on Wednesday mornings from 8.45, are invited to stay with their children at the start of the session to experience a magical Christmas Story Trail together in the garden.  The story trail is repeated at 12.45 if your child starts in the afternoon on a Wednesday, or if this is a better time for you to come. The story trail lasts approximately 20-30 minutes and we welcome all families to enjoy this special event.  Nest parents may also join in from 9.00am and again from 1.00pm, no matter what day your child attends the Nest. An invitation will follow in due course.Please may I make you aware that photographs cannot be taken at this event in order to safeguard all children. Class staff will be taking photos for your child’s Special Books. **Wednesday 5th December** **– Christmas Raffle**Thank you to everyone who has been donating towards this. Tracey and her sister Sharon are making up hampers from your donations. Raffle tickets will be sold throughout the day and the raffle will be drawn at 4.00pm.  A list of prize winners will be displayed in the entrance lobby. If you would like to donate and haven’t yet done so, e.g. chocolates, wine, Christmas goodies and gifts, these can be placed in the box in the foyer.Money raised goes directly to activities and resources for the children.  We spent a lot of money on buying new books for the library at the beginning of this term and are now starting to fundraise to replace the iPads that the children use in class. We are also having a visiting storyteller next term and some of what we raise will go towards this event too. **Nursery classes**:**Wednesday 12th December - Party Day.** This year’s party day is to include a play by ex-pupils of the Nursery. There will also be party food which we will provide for the children. (These events are only for the children and take place in the usual class session). As The Nest children attend on different days, from Monday 11th December they will be having a Party Week!**Father Christmas**During the last week or two of term – Father Christmas will visit the Nursery and Nest classes.  (Don’t tell!  It’s a surprise!).**Christmas dinner**The children who stay for lunch with us will be enjoying an extra special roast Christmas dinner in the last couple of weeks of term. **Visiting classes and helping at Homerton**We welcome parents’ visits and help in the Nursery and in The Nest. There are different ways in which parents can be involved:1. Classes are always keen to have parents read stories with children on a regular, or one off basis.
2. Share your expertise with your child’s class e.g. play an instrument, cook with a group or share an interest at ‘circle time’
3. Any time you can give to Homerton in helping us with the many and varied tasks we undertake e.g. mending toys, tidying the library, sewing, gardening, organising fundraising etc. we would be most grateful.
4. We also really need help with regular visits to our allotment and Old Orchard so if you be able to help please have a chat with the class staff.

 For all of the above please arrange mutually convenient times with your child’s class teacher. **Primary School Admissions – September 2019****The application process for children due to start primary school in September 2019 has already begun. It is a really good idea to visit schools to get a feel of what they are like.**Please note the closing date for applications for reception class places is **15 January 2019.**If you have any queries, please talk to a member of staff. Please be aware that everyone **must** apply for a place for their children, or risk not having a school for their child to go on to.  **Roy and Charlie the Homerton dog**Roy, our caretaker, is going to be sitting with his dog Charlie, a PAT (Pets As Therapy) dog, at the end of the corridor for a ‘meet and greet’ session on Tuesday’s from 8.45-9.15, if you and your child would like to go and see them, please do. If you want to come and see Charlie at another time just find Roy – he has a wealth of knowledge on how to approach and train dogs.  |