

October/November 2017

Hello everyone, and a warm welcome to the children and their families who have recently joined us; I hope you had a lovely half term break. This half term is going to be a busy one, packed with fun activities and ending with Christmas festivities!

Staff News

We said goodbye to Rachel Speake at the end of last half term and wish her well in her new job. We would now like to welcome Becky Fuller and Rob Knight to our team. Becky started in Holiday Club and has already met some of you and Rob is starting on Monday 30th October. Please note that I am on annual leave from Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November so please bear this in mind if you are emailing me; I will of course respond to all emails when I am back. Although Rachael will be checking the emails she won't be able to deal with all queries as she will be mostly with the children so please call the nursery if you need to.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening will be on Monday 27th November from 7-9 pm. To book a 10 minute consultation with your child's key worker please complete and return the slip at the bottom of this newsletter by **Friday 17th November** or email me with your preferred times and I will get a confirmation back to you.

Winter Weather & Children's Belongings

Access to the garden is available all year round, so please provide your children with suitable clothing, labelled clearly with their name, in case they choose to play outside. Please take your children's belongings home at the end of each session as we are in shared premises, and unable to store children's belongings overnight. Please also remember to claim any 'lost property' from the foyer; all unclaimed items will be donated to charity shops at the end of each term.

Increasing Sessions for January 2017 & 30 Hour Funding Entitlement

Please speak to me if you are hoping to increase your child's sessions for January. Some sessions are almost full and others are close to the staffing capacity; please let me know as soon as you can so that we can adjust staffing arrangements if need be. If your child is eligible for funding from January I will provide you with the forms soon but if you think that you are eligible for the 30 hour funding please register with HMRC on www.childcarechoices.gov.uk If you are eligible you will be issued with a code but if you do not register in time you will not be able to claim the extended hours until after Easter so it is important that you get ahead now.

Children's Photographs

The children's photographs taken on Friday 20th October are due back soon. Once they are back they will be left for you to collect on the front table. If you would like to place an order please complete and return your order form by Friday 17th November to guarantee delivery in time for Christmas.

This Half Term's Theme

This half term's theme will be carrying on from last half term and will be centred on '**Settling In**'. Last half term we spoke to the children about what we would do if there was a fire and we practised the fire drill without the alarm. At some point this half term, we will do this with the alarm too but we will give the children warning so they are prepared for the loud noise.

We will also be talking about fire safety in the lead up to bonfire night; Ian Dugdale (William's daddy) has kindly agreed to help us to make a real fire so we can toast marshmallows and sing camp fire songs. Ian and William are joining us on Friday 10th November in the morning (time to be confirmed); if your child does not attend on a Friday morning and you would like to join us, you are welcome to come along as long as you can stay with your child. Please let me know so that I can get an idea of numbers for safety and to make sure we have enough marshmallows!

Of course towards the end of this half term, glitter will take over the nursery for Christmas! If anyone would like to come in to share their favourite Christmas crafts or stories please let us know - we would LOVE to have you! We would also love to hear about your child's interests so please let any of us know and we can incorporate them into the sessions. We are always happy for parents and other family members to come in to play and have had some wonderful activities run by parents and grandparents in the past (you can see photos of these in the blue folder on the front table). Also, please let us know of the festivals and celebrations that your family participates in so we can mark these within our themes. Your input will ensure we do this authentically, using your knowledge and experiences rather than 'Googled' images and text.

Don't forget you are welcome to join us for story time at 3.50pm every day - family members and older siblings are also welcome to read the story but please let us know just so we don't double book people! If 3.50pm is not a convenient time and you would like to come in to read a story at any other time of the day - this can be arranged so just let us know.

Our Contact Details

If you need to get in touch with us our telephone number is 01954 710656 and our email address is lh.bourn@gmail.com.

Please remember to notify us if there have been any changes to your contact details or to your child's health or medical needs.

Parents' evening - Monday 27th November 2016 7pm-9pm

I would like to book a 10 minute consultation for my child (name)..... with
his/her keyworker (name)My preferred times are.....

Confirmation Slip (to be completed by Little Hands) for Parents' Evening - 27th November 7pm-9pm

Child's Name.....

A 10 minute appointment has been made with..... (child's key worker)
at..... (time slot).

Term dates 2017-2018

Autumn Term 2017 (2nd half)

30th October - 15th December 7 weeks

Christmas Holiday Club 18th, 19th, 20th 21st 22nd December 2017 & 2nd January 2018

Spring Term 2018 11 weeks 1 day

Wednesday 3rd January – 9th February 5 weeks 3 days

12th – 16th February Half Term Holiday Club

19th February – 28th March 5 weeks 3 days

Easter Holiday Club 29th March and 3rd 4th 5th 6th April and 9th 10th 11th 12th 13th April

Easter Bank Holidays -30th March and 2nd April (CLOSED)

Summer Term 2018 12 weeks 4 days

16th April - 25th May 5 weeks 4 days
(7th May Bank Holiday - CLOSED)

29th May - 1st June Half Term Holiday club

28th May – Bank Holiday (CLOSED)

4th June - 20th July 7 weeks

Summer holiday club from 23rd July dates to be confirmed