

Summer 1st Half Newsletter.

Welcome back

We are so excited to see some sunshine and we are hoping that it will be here to stay for a little while. As the weather gets better could we please ask that you bring in your children with sun cream applied and extra sun cream in their bags. A sunhat is essential too as our lovely garden is also a sun trap, so we are really careful that the children are properly protected in the sunshine.

Moorlands Court

We have been taking the pre-schoolers over to Moorlands now for a little while and it has become such a successful adventure. The nannies and grandpas at Moorlands really look forward to seeing our children and our children are starting to make lovely bonds with the residents. The residents have been teaching the children some new (to them!) nursery rhymes and we have been teaching them all about Baa Baa pink spot!! We will change our day to Thursday mornings from next term which will give some other preschool children a chance to access this too.

School Lunches

The preschool children will be starting to join Melbourn Primary school for school lunches and story time next term, you should have had a letter from us, if your child will be attending Melbourn, to choose and pay for your child's lunch choice. It is always a lovely experience and the children seem to enjoy it every year.

Themes

As always we have been asking the children in the nursery what things they like doing and they have come up with some lovely ideas about our themes this term, please pick up a sharing sheet from the foyer to see what each room is doing.

Dragonfly Room

Many of you will have already seen that over the Easter Holiday club, we gave the Soft play room a make over! It is now called the dragonfly room and has completely changed how we use the Dragonfly room. The babies are enjoying having a sensory messy play time in there in the mornings and exploring the big space.

The older children use it more in the afternoons and seem to love all that is on offer.

We are currently painting and organising one of our small rooms which will become our Multi sensory room! That will be all finished and ready to be used fully in September..... exciting times!!

Illness

Our policy for the dreaded sickness and diarrhoea bug is 48 hours away from Nursery. Please don't bring your child into nursery until they have had 48 hours since their last bout, we have had a real run of it last term with children and staff and we would like to try to keep it at bay as much as we can. I really appreciate your support in this as I know how difficult this can be especially as normally after 24 hours they are bouncing around looking fine!!

For all other illnesses we follow the latest guidelines from NHS Direct which does change from time to time so if you are worried about whether to bring your child in then please do check the website. **If you have had to give your child any medication to help them get through the day ie Calpol then we would ask you to not bring them in that day.**

E-mail address

Our e-mail address is lh-melbourn@btconnect.com and [lhmelbourn1@gmail](mailto:lhmelbourn1@gmail.com) if you would like to contact us in this way. Please note that the emails are not always checked if we are busy so if your query is urgent then please phone us instead.

PAYMENT OF FEES

Little Hands preferred payment methods are direct bank payments or Childcare vouchers. Payments should be made within 2 weeks of the invoice date or a late

pay fee of £20 will be added. Alternative payment arrangements (cheque or cash) or timings may be possible please speak to the nursery manager in advance

Direct Bank Payments

Fees can be paid directly into the nursery bank account either at a bank/post office or via Internet banking. The nursery bank details are:

Bank: HSBC
Sort Code: 401659
Account Number: 60037524

The payment should be referenced with your child's name and written notification emailed to Jane Marshall little.hands@icloud.com stating your child's name, payment amount and date payment has been made; this is essential to prevent payments being mistakenly attributed to the wrong family. If email is not an option the written notification can be given as a note/letter to the nursery manager.

Collection of children

Please note that our pick up times are **12, 1.00, 3.00, 4.00 and 4.30** if you come at any other time then please be patient if we don't open the door straight away, we are often in numbers with the children and can't leave to open the door until we have made sure the children are safe, if you can stick to our pick up times (or as close as possible) it would be greatly appreciated.

Our opening hours are 8.30 am until 4.30 pm, please make sure you are here to pick up your child by 4.30 or let us know as soon as you can if you are going to be a few minutes late so we can prepare your child that you will be a few minutes late picking up.

I know the pick up time can be tricky for lots of you but please remember we actually close at 4.30 and we need the children picked up and off the premises as close to that as possible, we then have to tidy up and get set up for the next day. Lots of us also have to go and pick up our own children and we often end up being late for them.

As our policy states we will charge a late fee for parents that are late picking upon a regular basis.

Lastly

We will be extending our opening hours from September this year. We will now be open 8.00 - 5.30. Any of our children staying past 4.30 will have a hot dinner provided.

This is really exciting and in response to so many of our parents asking us if we would consider extending the hours. If you haven't spoken to me about this yet but would like to then please do come and see me at some point.

Summer Holiday Club booking form will be sent out this week and paper copies available in the Foyer.