

## Little Hands Linton Newsletter September 2016

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### The sensory garden developing

Welcome back to the new academic year and we hope that you have had a fun filled and happy summer break. It seems to have gone very fast this year. We would like to say hello and welcome to the children and their families as they join us all at Little Hands this term.

### Staff and Key workers

As children and staff change sessions for a new academic year then we review our key worker list. Parents/carers will be informed of who their child/children key worker will be. Joyce, Vivien and Natalie are not returning to us this Autumn. We would like to welcome Zack Thurgood to the staff team.

### Theme

Our theme for the start of this half term will be Australia. We will look at the animals that live there, sing songs, read stories, play a didgeridoo discuss Aborigines and carry out creative activities to compliment the theme. We will then see where the children's interests take us as to what we will focus on next.

### Staying Safe

We will be discussing nursery rules with children, how we treat others and discuss who we can go to for help – within the nursery setting and at home.

Your child may bring items in for the topic to show us. Can we ask that any other toys brought in, other than comforters are shown to staff and friends and then either taken home with you or put in your child's bag if small enough? Other children always want to play with them and we cannot guarantee their safety.

### Term dates:

A full list is attached to the newsletter.

### Invoices

Invoices should be paid by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September. If you are experiencing any difficulties with payment please speak to Mandy in confidence.

### Payment details for invoices:

Bank: HSCB

Account name: Little Hands Nursery School Limited

Sort code: 40 16 59

Account no: 60037524

Please include your child's name on the payment



Mud kitchen

### Contact Details

**If any of the details about your child has changed, particularly telephone contact numbers and address since you filled in our Admission Form then please inform Mandy of the changes.**

### Lunch Boxes

**Please remember to clearly label lunch boxes on the outside and drink bottles with your child's name.** It is very hard for cover members of staff to know which things belong to which child and our own members of staff change over during lunch times.

### Nursery Clothing and Jewellery

### **Please, please, name clothing, shoes and wellingtons.**

**Children will need coat, sun hat and wellingtons** at nursery as we will go outside in all weathers. If we are still getting warm, sunny weather then we will assume that you have sun creamed your child before arriving at nursery. We will reapply sun cream for any children who stay all day. If you have left wellingtons here then please check that they still fit.

The wearing of necklaces by children at nursery is not a safe practice as it could get caught on equipment and be a strangulation hazard. Please can we ask that all jewellery is kept in a bag or left at home.

### **Make Up Sessions (from our policy)**

There is no refund for sessions missed e.g. for holidays or because of sickness, however, we do offer “make-up” sessions under certain conditions. Make-up sessions must be taken in the half term in which the missed sessions occurred. It may not be possible to replace all the sessions missed. Make-up sessions cannot be carried over from term time to holiday club or vice versa. Make up sessions are booked at the manager’s discretion and will not be allowed to affect our high staff to child ratio.

### **Parent/Carer Feedback**

We are always keen to have comments and suggestions from you that may improve the quality of care and education we provide for your children. If you wish to remain anonymous then please put your comment or suggestion in an envelope and put in our post box at the entrance gate.

### **Parent Involvement in Sessions**

You are always welcome to come in and play. Remember Dads as well as Mums are welcome!! Please let Mandy or Caroline know if you want to do this so that we can book it into the diary.

### **Notes from Parent/Carer in Bag**

We do not normally look in children’s bags. If you send information or replies in then please hand them to a member of staff or, if another adult is bringing your child in then ask them to give any notes, etc to staff.

### **Children’s Pictures and Models**

When children have pictures or models to take home we put them on the clothes peg hanging under their coat hook. Please make sure that you check their peg for these when you drop your child off.

### **October half term holiday club**

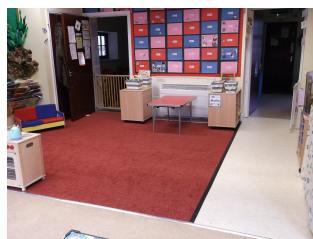
Please return any booking forms as soon as possible so that staffing can be finalised if you wish to use us. Forms to be returned by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September at the latest.

### **Squirrel**

It is with regret that Squirrel the guinea pig passed away over the summer holidays. We will talk to children about this in a sensitive way, through stories and discussion.

### **Changes to nursery**

We would like to say a very big ‘THANK YOU’ to Hayley Carter (Amy’s sister) who has given up her spare time to build us a mud kitchen that will enhance our children’s play, she has also agreed to help us with building a small den area in the garden. You will also see that over the holidays we have had a change around of furniture, a new play kitchen and carpet/lino in the main nursery room.



**The new play kitchen and car**

*We all look forward to the new academic year ahead,  
Mandy, Caroline, Michelle, Julia, Chloe, Lucy,  
Amy, Shanade, Jill and Zack*

