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Summer 2nd 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.

Please LABEL all hats and Suncream

Transitions for Pre school Children

This is an exciting time for our preschoolers who are getting ready for the next part of their adventure!! We have already started talking to the schools about what they would like to do to so that we can make the childrens transitional periods really successful. All of your schools will be already planning and getting ready to invite you and your child in for some sessions to get them ready for September and we will be starting to talk to the children in general about their schools and what school is all about.

We have looked at the book *The colour Monster* a few times over this last term and we now have *The colour Monster starts school* which we will share with the preschoolers this term so that will be a great talking point and hopefully give the children the chance to talk through any of their concerns or excitement about starting school.

You will hear the phrase *School Readiness* used a lot by your schools and it means different things to different people, for us at Little hands it just means that your child is the best prepared they can be for the next step on their journey and for each child this will be different. We will continue in this last half term to support your children and encourage them to learn and enjoy throughout this last half term.

We are also concentrating on producing transitional documents to send over to schools so we won't be sending home observations this half term but you will get the full PDF of your child's learning journal at the end of this term and you can download it over the Summer.

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Ladybird Children

Our ladybird children have also been growing and learning all year long and some of them will be moving over to the Butterfly room for September. We have established a great way of transitioning the children over which involves them going over regularly with the staff from Ladybirds to spend time in the Butterfly room and we will be starting this this half term. It is always very exciting to get into the room and see all the different resources and opportunities for the children to experience. We have found that this really helps with the settling back in process in September.

We will let you know the updated key worker lists over the Summer so that you know who will be your little one's keyworker in Butterfly room in September.

Bumble bee Children

The Bumblebee children have growing as a room as new little ones have joined us and we are so excited to see the progress they are making. Some of the bigger bumblebees will become ladybirds in September but their transition is ongoing throughout the year as they have the ability to use both rooms daily. They have been enjoying loads of amazing ever changing experiences daily in their rooms and always seem to throw themselves into (literally!) all these experiences!

Summer Project



We always like to have a project on the go over the Summer and this year we have two. We are going to redecorate the Butterfly room toilets to make it a bit fresher and homely!

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We are also tackling the Garden. We want to completely overhaul the baby end of the garden and make it a really fun space for the younger ones to enjoy and the bigger ones to enjoy a little bit of quiet space in a dedicated area.

If you are having a clear out over the Summer we would love anything that we can add into the garden, pots and planters, pallets and wood, we are going to have (finally its been on my wish list forever!!) a wood working station for the children so anything you have that we can add into that would be great. Any small spades, pebbles, buckets, plants, ect we will gladly take off your hands! We have many staff who are happy to upcycle most things so please do let us know if your having a clear out as your junk is our treasure!!



Instagram

If you haven't had a chance yet to check out Instagram page then please do drop by and have a look, it has some lovely pictures of the activities (no children pictures just activities) that your children are getting up to most days. It is one account for all 4 Nurseries so you can see what all our Little Hands family has been getting up to! You can find by searching for: [littlehandsnurseryschools](#)

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 bou. 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.**

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COVID GUIDANCE

Holidays and Travel

As travel restrictions begin to ease, please make sure that you notify the nursery if you are travelling abroad. The nursery can then support you in considering the isolation and quarantine periods required on your return to nursery following the relevant guidance at the time.

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.

5 Please note that our pick up times are **12, 1.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00 and 5.30** 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.

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Our opening hours are 8.00 am until 5.30 pm, please make sure you are here to pick up your child by 5.30 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 5.30 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.