

## Newsletter September 2015



Welcome back to "Little Hands" after the summer break. I hope that you had an enjoyable holiday.

We would also like to welcome our new children and their families to "Little Hands".

### Staff changes

We say goodbye to Lysa, and Lynne who are leaving us to further their career in the education sector and university. We wish them well in all they do. We welcome Amelia who has joined us in the summer term.

### Nursery changes

At the end of the summer term many changes were starting to take place within the nursery.

### Staff deployment

Some feedback and comments from parents over the last year have been reflected upon and some changes have been put in place. Continuity of the staff for the children is important, however, it is also necessary for the children to get to know all the staff so occasionally staff will move around. Sara and Sharon have been promoted to room leader status; Sara will be in charge of the running of the Bumblebee room and Sharon the Ladybird room. Both have a vast amount of experience.

Parents requested to know the names of the staff, this is already advertised in the main foyer but will be available in the rooms. Staff will be wearing badges with their names on, (once they have been delivered).

Bumblebee room staff are Sara and Melissa

Ladybird room staff are Sharon, Jacey and Melissa

Caterpillar room staff are Sally, Amelia and Amy

Butterfly room staff are Hannah, Jane, Elaine, Erika and Amy.

Decoration of some of the rooms.

Some of you will remember on previous newsletters we discussed that there had been a proposed rent increase by the parish council. Unfortunately decorating we had planned, has been delayed, but is now booked to take place at Christmas time.

New furniture

As you will see some of our new furniture is now in place and the rooms are starting to look refreshed. The children that have attended holiday club seem to like it and were quite excited to see in being put in place.

We will be changing the Garden area and adding some things that the children have requested.

### Gazebos

Due to bad weather conditions the gazebo's that we use in the garden have been damaged and have had to be thrown away. If anyone has one that they no longer use please feel free to donate, we would welcome them.

### Sharing Activity sheets

These sheets will be available in the foyer, they will highlight the themes/topics, songs and activities your child will be involved in. They will also contain suggestions that you may wish explore with your child. Many of the themes and topics chosen are your children's choices and therefore these sheets will be available from the beginning of each half term for you to take away. They will also be posted on our website for you to access. Please do feel free to take one.

### Key worker

Some of our children may have been allocated a new key worker either because the children or staff have changed their days or moved rooms. Your child's key worker is..... They will be responsible for overseeing the welfare and education of your child whilst at nursery. If they are unavailable or off sick the room leader will be responsible for making sure your child is happy. Whilst we endeavour to speak to each parent / carer at the end of each session, it is not always possible especially at busy times, particularly at lunch times as staff are supervising the children with their lunches, however we will do our utmost to be available to speak to .

### Holiday Club

The holiday club will run for 5 full days from 8.30-4.30pm. As usual, all siblings over 2 years and under 8 years of age are welcome to join us during the holiday club.

During holiday club we plan sessions using the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) as guidance. We have flexible planning so that we can work with the children's current interests. If you have any ideas which we could use please let us know.

The fees must be paid for in full by Friday the 2nd October as a late penalty of £20.00 will be added. The fees are £6.10 per hour for over 2 years of age and £6.20 for children under 2 years of age. It will be the manager's discretion to decide whether the sessions booked are viable. If you require any information about holiday club, please speak to Anne or Hannah. A booking form is available at the bottom of this newsletter; forms will also be

available in the foyer. Please complete and return as soon possible as we cannot guarantee places.

### **Collection of children**

We will be very busy this term and do rely on you to pick your child up on time. We ask that you be in the foyer or ready to come in when the doors are opened at the set collection times. The doors will be opened at 12, 1pm, 3pm, 4pm and 4.30. It is not necessary to ring the bell as this has proven to unsettle other children staying longer. However, if you need to collect your child earlier than the set times please speak to Anne or Hannah who will be happy to discuss arrangements with you. Repeated late collections of children can be very distressing for the child and make organisation of the staff very difficult. If a child is repeatedly collected late a fee of **£10.00 per 15 minutes** will be charged.

### **Make up sessions**

There is no refund of fees for sessions missed because of holidays taken in term time, or sickness; however, we do try to make up session lost because of sickness whenever possible. Make up sessions can only be taken if there is a vacant fully staffed session available and must be taken in the half term that the missed session occurred. This sometimes means that it is not possible to make up all the sessions missed. Please remember that make up sessions should not be booked until your child is sufficiently recovered to manage their usual week.

### **Weather/Clothing**

As the weather is so changeable we request that your child is prepared for the wet weather for example **named** wellington boots and a raincoat.

Please also ensure your child has a spare set of **named** clothes as we like to provide numerous messy activities for the children and we do go out in all weathers.

Our stock of spare cloths has depleted last academic year and therefore we have a limited supply. If your child requires the use some of our spare clothes, we do ask that they are washed and returned ready for someone else.

### **Contact numbers**

Please remember to update your child's contact numbers whenever they change. This is very important if your child becomes poorly and the staff are trying to contact you.

### **Term Dates**

Autumn Term: The Autumn term starts on the Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015.  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
Half Term 26<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Holiday 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2015

Spring Term            Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2015 - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Half Term 15<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Holidays 29<sup>th</sup>,30<sup>th</sup>,31<sup>st</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup>,5<sup>th</sup>,6<sup>th</sup>,7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

Summer Term            Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 30 May (2<sup>nd</sup> May Bank holiday- closed)

Half term Holiday club 30<sup>th</sup> May - 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June to Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Summer Holiday club will open from the 2<sup>0th</sup> July. For 6 weeks.

Thank You  
Anne



Bumble Bee Room  
Sharing Activity Sheet

Autumn Term 1st Half 2015

Themes we will be covering:

- Ourselves
- Transport
- Colours
- Autumn

We will be teaching the children the following rhymes and songs:

- Roley Poley song
- The Wheels on the Bus
- Row, Row, row, Your Boat
- Down at the Station
- The Leaves on the Trees - sung to the wheels on the bus tune

You may wish to explore these topics with your children:

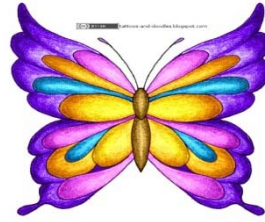
You may wish to talk about your weekend, what you have done and what you are going to do. You could look at photos of family, friends and pets and talk about them.

Looking through books you could talk about different ways of travelling pointing to the picture and encouraging speech with repetitive words and sounds that vehicles may make, you could talk about different ways of travelling.

You may want to draw a picture together and talk about what you have drawn and the colours you have used. You could look at books together you could point to different colours and discuss them.

You may like to go for a walk and crunch through the fallen leaves singing **The Leaves on the Tree** or just enjoy crunching through the fallen leaves on the ground, you could enjoy looking through books about autumn and talk about the animals and flowers having a big sleep.

## Butterfly Room



### Sharing Activity Sheet

Autumn Term 1st Half 2015

### Topics and Themes and Childrens choice

- Family
- Cooking
- Harvest Festival
- Autumn

### Songs and Rhymes

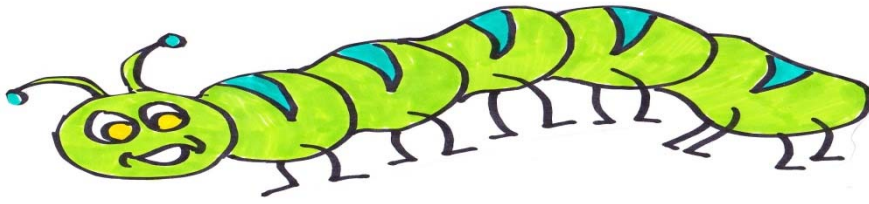
We will be teaching the children the following:-

- Bumpy bus
- 1,2,3 Look at me
- Days of the week
- 5 currant buns
- Cauliflowers fluffy
- Sweeping the leaves

### Things to explore at home

- Photos are a great way of learning about the different people in your family, you could even attempt your own family tree!
- Cooking week and harvest week is a great time to look at the different food that is on the shelves in the shops and talk about where it comes from, did a farmer have to grow? Is it something that is grown abroad etc.
- During our autumn weeks we will be looking at what is gradually happening to the leaves on the trees and how the outside world is changing and getting ready for winter. You could do a spot of conker or leaf collecting and talk about why they are falling off the trees and what they look like. How different do the trees look in the peak of summer to the middle of winter!

## Caterpillar Room



### Sharing Activity Sheet Autumn Term 1st Half 2015

#### Themes we will be covering

- All about me
- Autumn
- Cooking

#### We will be teaching the children the following rhymes and songs

- Please and thank you song
- Roly Poly
- Bumpy bus
- Sleeping bunnies

#### You may wish to explore these topics with your children

For all about me week which will be week 3 (21<sup>st</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> Sept) we will be asking the children to tell us about themselves and families, whether they have brothers or sisters and if they have pets etc. If you could bring in a picture of their family it will be displayed on our board in the Caterpillar Room, hoping this will encourage children to talk about themselves.

For Autumn week we will be doing many activities using leaves and conkers, so if you are out and about please let your children collect some so they can bring them to nursery. You may wish to talk about the changes in colour of the leaves.

If you are out shopping take a look at the different vegetables and talk about with your child / children about the different textures and shapes.

## Ladybird Room



### Sharing Activity Sheet

Autumn Term 1st Half 2015

#### Topics and Themes and Childrens choice

- All about me
- Harvest festival
- Autumn

#### Songs and Rhymes

We will be teaching the children the following:-

- Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes
- Bumpity Bus
- If your happy and you know it
- Big Red combine harvester
- Green Tractor

#### Things to explore at home

- We will be looking and learning all about ourselves and our families, you could start to talk to your child about your family, look at pictures of you and your family.
- We will be learning about ourselves and starting to label our bodies, hands, feet ect. You could start talking to the children about different parts of their bodies while cleaning teeth or washing faces.
- We will start to look at how the trees are changing colours in the autumn and what happens to the leaves. If you are out and about you could talk about the colours of the leaves. How do they feel and sound?