

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2015.

Welcome back after the Easter holiday, we hope you had a nice break.

Pippa has decided to leave the nursery after Easter and we all wish her every happiness in the future. The sessions that she worked have been covered by our existing staff. Claire will be the keyworker for the children that Pippa previously looked after.

Themes

The theme for the first two weeks will be Growing and Healthy Eating incorporating St George's Day on the 23/04/15.

The themes for the other weeks will be based on the children's interests which will be decided during the half term. We will notify you of the themes on the parents' notice board in the entrance hall.

Week 1 Growing

Learning Intention: Understanding the World

Week 2 Healthy Eating incorporating St George's Day on the 23/04/15. Also SWAN UK week.

Learning Intention: Expressive Arts and Design

Week 3 Children's Interest

Learning Intention: Personal, Social and Emotional

Week 4 Children's Interest

Learning Intention: Communication and Language

Week 5 People Who Help Us

Learning Intention: Physical

Week 6 Children's Interest

Learning Intention: Mathematics

Please remember that we like to provide a wide range of "messy" activities for the children so please dress your child in suitable clothing.

TERM DATES:

Summer Term:

Term begins on Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May.

Nursery will be closed on May Day 4th May.

Half term holiday club is for one week beginning 25th May.

Second half of the Summer term begins Monday 1st June to Monday 20th July.

We will then open for the Summer holiday club.

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 - NEW
Account Number: 60037524 - NEW

The payment should be referenced with your child's name and written notification emailed to janemarshall@littlehands.co.uk 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.

Childcare Vouchers

Working parents can choose to pay using Childcare Vouchers if their employer is part of a voucher scheme. Voucher payments are popular as they are exempt of tax & national insurance deductions. The voucher company should be instructed to notify the nursery by e-mail when the payment is due so that individual payments can be correctly tracked.

Cheque payments

Cheques should be made payable to Little Hands Nursery.

Cheques are banked in the week following the payment period (two weeks after the invoice date.) Please note that cheque payments made outside the payment period may be not be banked until the following half term. Nursery will pass all bank charges incurred from un-cleared cheques to the parents.

E-mail address

Our e-mail address is lh-newton@btconnect.com if you would like to contact us in this way.

Booking forms for September 2015.

Please consider carefully how many sessions your child will need for the whole school year as in many instances, it was not possible to increase the number of sessions for all the children wishing to do so this year. This is particularly important when your child becomes eligible for Early Years Funding as many parents wish to increase sessions at this point.

Please return any outstanding bookings forms as soon as possible as several sessions are already becoming very busy.

Sainsbury's Schools Vouchers

We are collecting the Sainsbury's Schools vouchers. A collecting box is in the entrance hall so please spend lots of money and collect as many as possible.

SWAN UK week 20/04/15-24/04/15.

We are holding a fund raising week to support the charity SWAN UK (syndromes without a name). Swan UK is an charity which offers support and information to families of children with undiagnosed genetic conditions. We currently have a family who are supported by this charity and we would like to raise some money for SWAN UK.

It would be lovely if the children came to nursery dressed up in pink and blue clothes as they are the colours of SWAN UK, particularly on Friday 24th April. Please remember that the children will still be doing normal activities both inside and outside the nursery, so clothes should be comfortable, warm and washable. We will be collecting money for SWAN UK by selling sweets, biscuits, cakes, etc. Any donations of sweets, biscuits and cakes will be gratefully received.

Dad's Week and other significant males (or females) (15th - 19th June)

We would like to invite any Dad or other person to join us at nursery to spend an hour (it can be longer) at the nursery with your child during the week beginning the 15th June. This can be at the beginning or end of the session if this fits in best with your work schedule. You might like your child to show you around the nursery, read a story to the children, play on the computer, paint or draw or play outside. You may prefer to share any particular skill you may have with the children. If you would like to come into the nursery please speak to Sheila or Lisa to arrange a date and time.

People Who Help Us (11th- 15th May)

In the week beginning 11/05/2015 our theme will be "People Who Help Us". We would like to invite any parent, carer or relative to join us at nursery to share any particular skill you may have with the children. The children always enjoy having visitors in the nursery so if you would like to come in please speak to Sheila or Lisa to arrange a date and time.

Photographer

The photographer will be visiting nursery on Tuesday 28th April and Wednesday 29th April. He will take individual photographs on these days and also group photographs. If your child does not attend on these days please feel free to come in between 11.45am and 1.15pm to have their photograph taken. Siblings are also welcome to come along. Please fill in the form at the bottom of this newsletter if you would like your child to have a photograph taken. Group photos will be taken at approx. 11.45am and 1.05pm.

Parents evening

We will be holding a parents evening on Thursday 18th June 2015 from 7- 8.30 pm. If you require an appointment with either the session leader or your child's key worker please return the form at the end of this newsletter as soon as possible or speak to Sheila or Lisa.

Red Nose Day

Thank you to everyone who supported our fund raising efforts for Red Nose Day.

Weather

It is advisable to apply sunscreen to your child before bringing them to nursery. Cancer Research UK recommend factor 15 or higher. If your child attends for four hours or less it will not be necessary for the sunscreen to be reapplied at nursery. If your child attends a full day please send a named bottle of sunscreen to nursery with them and we will help your child reapply the cream before afternoon play. We are not able to apply a "general use" sunscreen to children who have not brought a named bottle with them in case a skin reaction occurs.

Please label cream, hats and clothing with your child's name.

Holiday Clubs.

We would like to notify all working parents and those who want to book into holiday clubs that we will be reviewing the number of children who have booked sessions within two weeks of the start of each half term so that we can ensure that we have adequate staffing for the holiday club. If you require certain sessions then please book in as early as possible to ensure that we can offer you the spaces that you need. We have had a lot of late bookings recently which we were not able to accommodate as we had already sorted out the staffing levels. It will be at the manager's discretion to decide whether the sessions booked are viable.

Half Term Holiday Club

The half term holiday club will run for four 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 as guidance. We have flexible planning so that we can plan and work with the children's current interests. If you have any ideas which we could use then please let us know.

The fees must be paid by Friday 22nd May otherwise a late pay penalty of £20.00 will be added. Once the sessions have been confirmed they cannot be cancelled or reduced and the fees are payable in full. The fees are £6.10 per hour. It will be at the manager's discretion to decide whether the sessions booked are viable. If you have any problems or if you require any information about holiday club please see Sheila or Lisa. A booking form is at the bottom of this newsletter to be completed and returned as soon as possible as we cannot guarantee places will be available.

PLEASE RETURN THE FOLLOWING SLIPS TO NURSERY.

**Booking form for May 2015 Half term holiday club.
I would like to book the following sessions:**

Child's name.....

Monday 25th May: Bank Holiday - CLOSED

Tuesday 26th May: 8.30-9.00am 9-10am 10-12am 12-1pm 1-3pm 3-4pm 4-4.30pm

Wednesday 27th May: 8.30-9.00am 9-10am 10-12am 12-1pm 1-3pm 3-4pm 4-4.30pm

Thursday 28th May: 8.30-9.00am 9-10am 10-12am 12-1pm 1-3pm 3-4pm 4-4.30pm

Friday 29th May: 8.30-9.00am 9-10am 10-12am 12-1pm 1-3pm 3-4pm 4-4.30pm

Photo confirmation slip

CHILD'S NAME.....

I would like my child/children to have an individual photograph to be taken on Tuesday 28th April or Wednesday 29th April (please circle the day).

I will / will not be present for the photograph.

Parents evening

CHILD'S NAME.....

I would like to make an appointment with my child's key worker/session leader..... between 7.00 and 8.30pm on the evening of Thursday 18th June at (preferred time).....pm.

I will be attending but do not need an appointment.

I will not be attending.
