

September 2014

Welcome back everyone, and a very warm welcome to all our new children and their families. I hope you all had a good summer break and are ready for a brand new year at nursery.

Staff News:

I would like to congratulate Emma, Nicky and Stefan on completing their Level 3 Diplomas, and also wish Edel and Rachael luck as they have just embarked on theirs. Also, I would like to extend a warm welcome to Amy McClean who will be joining us as a volunteer during her gap year; we will be giving her lots of practice before she starts her Early Childhood Studies degree next September. Amy is already known to some of the children, as she joined us last year for two weeks for her work experience as part of her Level 3 Diploma and she has also worked with us during the Summer Holiday Club.

Nursery Contact Details:

The nursery email address is lh.bourn@gmail.com and our telephone number is **07708 061575**. Please use either of these methods of communication for any queries or to inform us if your child will not be attending nursery.

Please remember to keep me informed of any changes to your contact details or regarding your child's general health or requirements.

Fees:

The last day for paying fees this half term is **Friday 18th September**, late payments can incur a late payment fee of £20 but this can be waived if you let me know in advance. These dates also apply if you are paying by voucher but please speak to me if you think that your payment may be delayed. If you prefer to pay directly into the nursery account, the details are as follows:

Bank: HSBC, Sort Code: 40 16 08, Account Number: 31615947

Please remember to send a notification by email to Jane Marshall, the nursery proprietor, at janemarshall@littlehands.co.uk and enter your child's name and 'Bourn' as a reference to ensure that your payment is allocated correctly. This is to avoid any confusion with payments meant for other families with the same surname at one of the other Little Hands nurseries.

Early Years Funding:

Thank you for returning your funding forms last term, if you haven't please return it as soon as possible. Please ensure that the sessions you are claiming are correct, especially if your child attends another setting. You can claim a maximum of 15 hours per week which can be shared between two settings, but the Early Years Funding team will not accept any changes during the term. The EYF team check all claims and can withhold payments if duplicate claims are made. Parents will be expected to pay the full price for duplicate claims. Please see me if you have any worries or concerns.

Children's Belongings

Please provide your children with a pair of wellies for the garden; we do have some spares but not nearly enough if everyone wants to play outside! Additionally it would be useful if all children brought spare clothing as they are quite likely to get wet or dirty through play as well as toilet accidents. We are happy to provide spare clothing but, as with the wellies, our supplies are limited, so please return any nursery clothing given to your child.

Please label your children's belongings as some children have identical items. This is especially important for lunch boxes as children have different dietary needs, and allergies and any mix ups can be harmful. For this reason, the nursery staff have been asked to label any unnamed lunch boxes.

Holiday Club

This year's summer holiday club was very well attended and we had lots of fun. I am now taking bookings for the October half term holiday club; a booking form is attached to this newsletter if you would like to book a place.

Planning

We base our planning on the children's needs and interests; if your child has any particular interests that you think we can introduce into the nursery sessions please let either myself, or Gill know and we can incorporate them into the planning. We have had some wonderful activities run by parents and grandparents in the past so please feel free to look through the folder on the front table to see photos of these. Please let us know if you would like to come in to share your skills and interests with us - we would be very happy to have you! Please also let us know of any festivals or celebrations that your family participates in as we would like to mark these within our planning as authentically as possible using your knowledge and experiences rather than 'googled' images and text.

Story Time

We welcome all parents/carers to join us for story-time at the end of each day; the door opens at 3.50pm for parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters who would like to come in and listen to the story with us. **We also welcome any volunteers who would like to read a story to the group - you may even like to bring your own story in.** Please arrive on time as latecomers can disrupt the story and the children's concentration. We would also be very grateful if you could help us to encourage your children to sit quietly for story. To ensure all children's safety please also supervise younger siblings closely as staff may be clearing furniture away into the Mouse room.

Planning - During this half term we will be looking at:

Weeks 1 - 2

8/09 - 19/09

Settling In - During the first two weeks we will be giving all the children the chance to settle in to the nursery routine. We will be getting to know each other and everyone's names. We will be learning about the general rules and safety at nursery such as what we should do if we hear the fire alarm. We will also be collecting photos for our display board, so please bring in in any photographs from your holidays or special days.

Week 3

22/09-27/09

Week of our Languages (Includes International Breakfast Day on Friday 27th September) - We will be learning how to say 'Hello' in all the languages that are spoken by the staff, children, parents and friends of Little Hands. Please let us know if a language important to you is not represented on our welcome board so we can add it. On the Breakfast morning please bring some breakfast food to share with everyone and stay with us for breakfast!

Week 4

29/09-03/10

Harvest Time - We will be talking about harvest time, making food collages, vegetable printing, and making bread. We are also hoping to visit the church to see the Harvest Festival decorations. Please look out for a poster in the foyer containing more information as I am currently waiting for confirmation as to whether the church will be collecting for the Food Bank

again; the children thoroughly enjoyed pushing the trolley over to the church last year, so we would like to join in if they are.

Week 5

06/10-10/10

Staying Safe - Out & About - We will be playing outside as much as possible, going for walks to explore the outdoors using equipment such as binoculars, magnifying glasses, nets, and some clip boards and the camera to record what we see and find. We will be talking about staying safe when we are outside, covering topics such as stranger danger, and poisonous plants/berries. Please help your child be prepared to be an outdoor explorer by providing him/her with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather.

Week 6

13/10-17/10

Space and Planets - We will be learning about space and the planets, making our own telescopes, paper mache planets and looking through a real telescope to see what we can see. Please let us know if you have any books or equipment that we could use or if you would like to come in to help with any activities. We would be happy to have you!

Week 7

20/10-24/10

Knights, Princesses & Castles - We will be talking about castles, dressing up as knights and princesses and making swords and princess' hats. We are also planning on a group project to make a large castle out of boxes and junk modelling and holding a medieval banquet at snack times.

Kind regards,

Pam

Term dates 2014 – 2015

Autumn Term 2014

Monday 8th September – 24 th October	7 weeks
27 th – 31 st October	Half term holiday club
3rd November - 19th December	7 weeks

Spring Term 2015

5 th January – 13 th February	6 weeks
16 th – 20th February	Half term holiday club
23rd February – 27 th March	5 weeks

Summer Term 2015

13th April - 22nd May	5 weeks 4 days
(4th May Bank Holiday)	
25 th – 29 th May	Half term holiday club
1st June - 20th July	7 weeks & 1 day

HOLIDAY CLUB – October Half Term 2014

Child(ren)'s Name(s) _____

We can accept children from ages 2 – 8, so older siblings and their friends are also welcome

Sessions required (please circle):

Monday 27/10 8.30-9 9-10 10-11 11-12 12-1 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-4.30

Tuesday 28/10 8.30-9 9-10 10-11 11-12 12-1 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-4.30

Wednesday 29/10 8.30-9 9-10 10-11 11-12 12-1 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-4.30

Thursday 30/10 8.30-9 9-10 10-11 11-12 12-1 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-4.30

Friday 31/10 8.30-9 9-10 10-11 11-12 12-1 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-4.30

Please return by Monday 22nd September

Comments/Suggestions.

Please use this space to share any general feedback, comments or suggestions.