

Summer 1st Half Newsletter.

Welcome back

We hope you all had a fantastic Easter and managed to enjoy the seasons of weather we seem to have had over the last two weeks! Can't believe I woke up to snow this morning!!

We have been busy working away over the last two weeks getting Nursery ready for another term and have begun to focus on getting our garden all tip top and ready for the summer. Some of the children may have told you but we now are the proud owners of a bath!! This is in our garden and is going to be part of our living area. The children have already started to plant and learn about what food they will be growing and one of children has bought in some peas from home to grow.

We have a bug hotel already situated there and we are planning to build this up to spark the children's interests and extend their learning about the wider world around them.

The baby garden is having an overhaul over the next few months and will be an exciting little space for the little baby hands to discover!

If you have a clear out over the Easter Holiday or Lockdown in general and would like somewhere to put your haul! We are always on the look out for things we can recycle and up cycle or add into our loose parts collections on either side of the Nursery. We would love any pots and pans for our baby garden mud kitchen, spoons wooden or metal. Anything we can use to pour in the water trays jugs cups. We are looking for any bed slats, curtain rings wooden, flower pots plastic, wooden jigsaws, wooden blocks ect. We keep these things aside for 72 hours in line with our guidance and then introduce into Nursery! I know lots of you have donated things already which is great and we thank you so much, I'm sorry that we can't take soft toys or books but now that the charity shops are open again I'm sure they would appreciate them.

Illness

We have sent out our Covid sickness policy and procedure separately so please make sure you are familiar with that and know what to do if your child is unwell with any of those symptoms.

Our policy for the dreaded sickness and diarrhoea bug is 48 hours away from Nursery. Please do not bring your child into nursery until they have had 48 hours since their last bout. 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.**

E-mail address

Our e-mail address is lh-melbourn@btconnect.com and lhmelbourn1@gmail 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.

Collection of children

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.