

Little Stars Pre-school

Newsletter November 2024

Welcome to the 2nd Half of the Autumn Term 2024!!

Team News

Unfortunately, Anita is still recovering from her broken foot/ankle, and we hope she will return at some point in the New Year. As you are aware, Aimee has moved on to pastures new and we are currently looking at employing a new Team Member with a Level 3 in childcare and education. If you, or anyone you know, hold this qualification and are looking for a job, Term Time only in a pre-school, please e-mail a CV to joss-littlestars@hotmail.co.uk. The hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 7.45am-3.15pm, with the possibility of more in the future.

If you have Facebook - please follow us, as we put up photos and information during the session, every day. [Follow, Little Stars Pre-school Farlington.](#)

Raising Funds for our playground - as you are aware, we are raising funds to replace our outside playground. The cost is a big one and unfortunately, we do not qualify for any grants etc because we are privately owned. At the beginning of Term all of the children were given a Sponsored Find form, and I would like to thank the 6 children that have returned them. The closing date for this was the week before Half Term, but I would like to extend this to enable more children to have a go and help us raise funds for our playground. The activity to find items is a fun one and we don't ask for a lot of sponsors, just that Every Little Helps!! Please help and return completed forms and any money by Friday 15th November.

I know the Newsletter can be a little long, but can I encourage you to read it all as it does contain a lot of important information and if there is anything you would like to speak to us about, please do not hesitate to do so by either text, phone or e-mail.

Please refrain from messaging on Facebook as we do not always get these messages or see them.

Our Term Dates, Colour of the week, Important Dates for Your Diary and Song of the week can be found at the end of this Newsletter. Please take a look as this is very important information.

Please can we ask that the children refrain from wearing jewellery to pre-school, with the exception of stud earrings. We have had a few incidents including necklaces being pulled.

Please ensure that you inform us of any changes in your e-mail address and phone numbers. We communicate, mostly, through e-mail and text now rather than paper and it is essential that we have the correct contact information.

We cannot stress enough how important it is to keep everyone safe from coughs and colds where possible. If your child has a raised temperature or is not feeling their normal self, please keep them home until they are feeling better. We know this can be difficult for working parents, but we cannot stress enough how important it is for the children to be warm and cosy at home to recover and get better to come back to pre-school and be with their friends and teachers.

This half term our topic will be "Celebrations". We will be taking part in activities and talking about Bonfires, Fireworks and safety, Remembrance Day, Light Celebrations, In the Night Sky, Christmas and Children In Need. Our activities will include splat painting, hand print poppies, puddy bear collages, rangoli patterns, making decorations and games using the parachute and rainbow ribbons.

We will be starting our Nursery Narrative programme with the children starting school next September and continuing with Jolly Phonics as well as getting ready for our Christmas Concert.

Children In Need falls on Friday 15th November and the children can wear their PJ's this day if they want to.

Our last day of term before Christmas is Friday 20th December. All the children are invited to attend our party at 12 noon and take part in our Christmas Concert. If your child does not normally attend on a Friday afternoon, please bring them in at 12 noon. Two parents/carers of each child, are invited back at 2.30pm to watch our Christmas Concert.

Nursery Narrative

04/11/24	Me
11/11/24	Who Am I?
18/11/24	Me and My Family
25/11/24	Me and My Friends
02/12/24	A Traditional Story
09/12/24	Nursery Rhymes
16/12/24	Familiar Book Characters

Jolly Phonics

Each week we follow the Jolly Phonics programme.

04/11/24	H
11/11/24	R
18/11/24	M
25/11/24	D
02/12/24	G
09/12/24	O
16/12/24	ALL

Please continue to use the hand sanitiser provided for both you and your child when dropping off and picking up. All of children have their temperature taken first thing and throughout the day and if their temperature is high, you will be asked to come and collect them.

LET'S STAY SAFE AND DO WHAT WE CAN to still prevent contamination!!!

Can we also ask that when dropping off and picking up your child/children, that you go into the playground and wait for a member of the team to be at the steps to take your child from you at drop off time or handing over to you at the end of their session. Please refrain from waiting on the pathway or coming down the steps. Thank you.

Extended Hours

We offer breakfast 8am-9am for Parents/Carers that may need that extra childcare. We are happy to take older siblings that need to be taken to Solent Infants or Juniors (Unfortunately we are unable to drop off at other schools in the area). If this is something you need, then please speak to Julia or Jo or drop us an e-mail. If you know anyone that this might help, please pass on our details. Can I also say that we can take children up to the age of 8 years of age, this means that children can come to us when on Inset Days. Again, please let us know if we can help or let anyone else you know that this might help.

Invoices

Please be reminded that invoices need to be paid promptly to avoid arrears. **Invoices need to be paid in full by return, and definitely before the end of each half term, as agreed in your payment policy.** Full Payment by the last Wednesday of each half term has always been a gesture of good will from myself to help with spreading the

payments, it is not a date for the invoice to be left unpaid until then. Therefore, I am asking that Invoices be paid by return. If you need to pay weekly over the half term, then you will need to agree this with me. I am sorry to have to change this, but it becomes very frustrating and embarrassing to have to chase for fees owing.

Please note that we do not accept cheques at Little Stars Pre-school.

Fees are as follows:

2-3 years - £7.00 per hour

3-4 years - £6.80 per hour

Extra sessions and lunches are to be paid on the day attending.

We are experiencing lunches and extra sessions not being paid for on the day, or in advance, as well as invoice payments being left right to the last minute and resulting in us having to chase for payments that can be a little embarrassing as well as worrying. Please ensure these payments are made promptly. Can I also remind you that if you require Breakfast Hour or 3-3.30pm please give us notice in advance even if the day/night before.

Collection of Children.

Please be reminded that if collecting your child before 12 noon or 3pm you will need to collect them before 11.45 or 2.45pm as to not disturb story time. We would also appreciate it if we know you are collecting early to enable us to have your child ready to bring them to you at the front door.

Lunches

Please can we remind you that we do not have sweets, this includes fruit winders and Bear products, chocolate bars etc, fizzy drinks or ANYTHING containing NUTS in our lunchboxes, that includes peanut butter as we can have children with severe allergies. We promote healthy eating and **GRAPES AND LARGE BLUEBERRIES NEED TO BE SLICED LENGTHWAYS to avoid potential choking hazards**. Can we also ask that an ice pack be placed in your child's lunch box please as we do not have a large fridge to store them in during the morning.

Being ready for all weathers

Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for both inside and outside with them in a named bag and all items have their name in. The hall can be quite cold in the mornings until we come in and turn up the radiators. Please ensure that your child is dressed ready for the day with adequate changes of clothing including suitable footwear in their named bag. Please name all belongings including coats, shoes, hats, changing bags

and lunch boxes. If your child wears wellington boots to pre-school, please supply a named change of shoes or slippers for us to change them into.

Pre-existing Injuries

It is essential that you let us know when you drop off if your child has a pre-existing injury, this could be a bump, bruise, rash or sore etc. You will need to complete a pre-existing injury form before leaving. If we discover a pre-existing injury after dropping off, we will contact you and complete a form that will need to be read and signed on collection.

Song of the week

Please encourage your child to sing our weekly song at home with family and friends.

Week beginning	
04/11/24	10 Fat Sausages
11/11/24	Leaves of the Trees
18/11/24	Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star
25/11/24	Incy Wincy Spider
02/12/24	Christmas Songs
09/12/24	Christmas Songs
16/12/24	Christmas Songs

Christmas song sheet will be sent to you in a couple of weeks.

Colour of the week

04/11/24	Neon
11/11/24	Red
18/11/24	White

25/11/24	Black
02/12/24	Gold
09/12/24	Silver
16/12/24	Favourite

Colour of the week is something we use, within pre-school, to learn our colours and encourage the children to "Bring an item into Pre-school". Please ensure that any items are clean and have the colour of the week on them. The Teachers will ensure that all items are kept safe. Please encourage your child to find an item that coincides with "The Colour of the Week" above and bring it into Pre-school so we can talk about colours and show and tell. The children also make playdough on a Monday to coincide with this each week.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 5th November - Please return the order form for your Christmas Cards/Gifts, even if you have paid online. I need to send them all together.

Friday 15th November - Return Sponsored Find form and any money raised

Friday 20th December - Christmas Party and Concert for all the Children.

Little Stars Pre-school

Term Dates September 2024 - July 2025

2nd Half Autumn Term 2024

Monday 4th November - Friday 20th December

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January

1st Half Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January - Friday 14th February

HALF TERM

Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February

2nd Half Spring Term 2025

Monday 24th February - Friday 4th April 2025

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 7th April - Monday 21st April

1st Half Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April - Friday 23rd May

BANK HOLIDAY - Monday 5th MAY (CLOSED)

HALF TERM

Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May

2nd Half Summer Term 2025

Monday 2nd June - Friday 18th July