

# Little Acorns Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2020

## Dates for Your Diary 2019

Here are the coming term dates which are inclusive.

**Autumn Term 1st half** — 1st Sept—23rd Oct 20

**Oct Half Term Holiday** — 24th Oct 20—1st Nov 20

**Autumn Term 2nd half**—2nd Nov 20 —18th Dec 20

**Christmas Holiday** — 19th Dec 20 —3th Jan 2021

**Spring Term 1st Half** — 4th Jan 2020

Please let us know when you want to finish for Christmas, if you want to stick to differing holiday dates that's fine at no extra cost to you.

We have online training the week of **November 9th-12th** in the early evening. We have been in touch with you if it impacts on your time. If we haven't talked to you about it then it doesn't impact on your time. Thank you for helping us to access this training.

## **Peppa Pig's Muddy Puddle Walk**

### **Save The Children**

On **Monday 12th October** we will be taking part in Peppa Pig's Muddy Puddle Walk, so please wear clothes that can get wet/muddy, and put some spares in the bag.

Pack your wellies, and we will provide All-In-Ones! (We do have some wellies for most sizes, if we haven't got the size needed for your child we would have asked you to pop some in the bag!)

Please bring a few loose coins that your child can post into the box. If you want to make a donation of your own pop it into an envelope for Monday, but there is no obligation for you to do so.

## **Handa's 'Harvest' Surprise!**

We combined Harvest and Black History Month this year and have been sharing Handa's adventures and stories, retelling the stories with puppets, prompts and baskets of fruit. We have been learning an African Clock dance, learning to play African djembe drums, gato drums and cabassa, sharing African 'Tinga Tinga' tales, tasting fruit, and using a Tanzanian counting story 'We All Went on Safari' too. We have African animals in the small world, and will stress how these beautiful animals need to be looked after and 'protected'.

Through some lovely quality books we are learning about the similarities and differences in cultures and communities. We are using books such as West African 'Baby Goes To Market', and The Kenyan tales 'Mama Panya's Pancakes' and 'Bringing The Rain to Kapiti Plain'. The fruit we share will include some familiar items but hopefully we will introduce a few new tastes too! 'In A Minute' celebrates diversity in some familiar settings, the park, picnic and carnival procession.

## **Small World, Big Ideas!**

Small world play refers to imaginative play with 'small' toys, encouraging children to use and develop their imaginations and create both everyday and fantasy worlds in familiar surroundings. It might include the dolls house, the farm, the playground, trains and train track and accessories, the cars and the road, the zoo and the vets. Each includes 'people' reflecting a diverse community and accessories to help a narrative develop, and allowing the children to pretend. It's a great way of supporting personal, social and emotional skills too.

## **Autumn Term Plans!**

We will be enjoying activities linked to children's interests such as cars, trains, small world, dinosaurs, babies and construction of different kinds, puzzles, sorting and timers. When the children self initiate games and activities we play alongside and find ways to extend their play, and introduce decision making, problem solving, independence perseverance and persistence. It is also a great opportunity to promote resilience and 'bounce-back-ability', helping them to find ways to overcome challenges of different kinds. Through this play we learn that more effort or a different approach may pay off! As we begin to enjoy challenges we become proud of what we achieve and we like how it feels, carrying this feeling on to the next challenge.

Outside we have a tent providing a covered and sheltered area which is where the children can find their sand and wet play. It has already proved to be very popular! It is safely secured, but if the weather turns exceptionally windy we will take it down for a while.

We adapt our provision to include children at different ages and stages of development and continue to explore colours, shapes and sizes, sounds, letters and sounds, counting, numbers and measures, music and rhymes.