

Little Acorns Newsletter

Autumn Term 2 2020 *We Wish You A Merry Christmas, and A Happy New Year!*



Dates for Your Diary 2020-21

Here are the coming term dates which are inclusive.
Autumn Term 2nd half—2nd Nov 20 —18th Dec 20
Christmas Holiday — 19th Dec 20 —3th Jan 2021
Spring Term 1st Half — 4th Jan 2021—12th Feb 2021
Feb Half term—13th Feb 2021—21st Feb 2021
Spring Term 2nd Half—22nd Feb 2021—1st April 2021
Please let us know when you want to finish for Christmas, if you want to follow differing holiday dates in line with your school/holiday dates, that's fine at no extra cost to you. We will adjust invoices accordingly.

Peppa Pig Saves The Children!

Thank you for your support as Peppa jumped, dug, stamped and make tracks in Muddy Puddles, we raised £13 for Save the Children.

Online Training...The New Normal! Nursery World 2020

Thank you for adjusting your pick up times so that we could attend the Online Conference. It was a fabulous opportunity to explore a range of themes, and to network virtually with other professionals, both local and around the world!

It included amongst other sessions:

Reflecting on the New Development Matters coming in next September

Working in Partnership with Children and Families
Mathematics—More Than Numbers?

Loose Parts Play

Cognitive Load Theory

Observation, Assessment and Planning

Thank you for your support!

COVID-19 Update...Help is Coming!

It is great news, having found and approved a vaccine, that this month the vaccine will begin to be rolled out either at NHS Hubs at local hospitals, or at GP surgeries. With Fred in the over 80s group, and Dave in the clinically vulnerable group, it has been a worrying time here. I'm sure many of you are in the same situation with elderly or vulnerable relatives.

We are not sure how the logistics of the vaccinations will work, and it may mean that we will need to transport Fred to a local Hub at a designated appointment time. If so I will let you know, and we will do all that we can to minimise any disruption to our opening times. A few of you are in the essential worker group and so will find yourselves being offered a vaccination early on, let us know if it changes your routine/times. In the meantime, if anyone would like to see our COVID-19 risk assessment please ask us for a copy as we continue to manage COVID. The end is in sight!

Managing Illness through the Winter

We continue to manage general illness through the winter months, as per our risk assessment.

Please refer to our website pages such as All About Bugs, Illness Policy and NHS links. If your child is unwell they are better off staying at home. Within our risk assessment we are cleaning daily and deep cleaning twice a week. All mouthed toys are washed and touching of toys between children is minimised. We continue to encourage children to blow nose, dispose of tissue and wash hands. We will wear masks if we become ill. Also, don't forget the **Children's Flu Vaccine**, a nasal spray, (or injection if appropriate). This is for all children aged 2 or 3, and for those who are high risk.

Approaching Winter!

We will be enjoying self initiated activities linked to children's interests such as cars, trains, small world, dinosaurs, babies and construction of different kinds, puzzles and problems, sorting, instruments, dough and mark making. When the children self initiate games and activities we play alongside and find ways to extend their play, and introduce decision making and problem solving. In addition to children's interests we will be exploring the worms, rotten loggery, changes in nature, the change in colour and loss of the leaves, autumn walks, leaf patterns, printing, and the onset of winter, the darker evenings, and the countdown to Christmas! We will be looking at calendars, characters of The Nativity, crowns, carols, crackers and cards organised in loose parts play opportunities! We adapt our provision and play to include children at different ages and stages of development in an inclusive, COVID-19-secure way and continue to explore colours, shapes and sizes by comparison, sounds, letters and sounds, counting, numbers and measures, music and rhymes.

Wash, wash, wash your hands!

We will continue to look for interesting ways to teach how important hand washing is and creative ways of encouraging children to do it. We have a resource pack made by a student at Hereford University, which includes Fizzing Flumple which defeats nasty germs, a hand woven cloth and fizzing water shapes! We have different scented soap, and hand dispensers in the role play and water trays so that children learn how to press them.

Hands...Face...Space