

Little Acorns Newsletter

Autumn Term 2 (2021)

New variants are causing high infections—get boosted and have a safe Christmas x

Dates for Your Diary 2021/22

At little Acorns we generally work term time, working within the school term dates. These are the dates for your diary and they are inclusive.

Autumn 2: 1st Nov — 17th Dec

Christmas Holiday: 18th Dec 21 — 3rd Jan 22

Christmas Bank Holiday: 27th, 28th Dec 21 and 3rd Jan 22

Spring 1: 4th Jan 22 - 11th Feb 22

Feb Half Term: 12th Feb 22 - 20th Feb 22

Spring 2: 21st Feb 22 — 1st April 22

Easter Holiday: 2nd April 22— 18th April 22

April 22 Bank Holiday: 15th and 18th April 22

Summer 1: 19th April 22—27th May 22

2022 Bank Holiday: 2nd May, 2nd June, and 3rd June.

Summer Half Term: 28th May 22 — 5th June 22

Autumn 2 learning:

The theme for Anti Bullying week is 'One Kind Word', and we will be encouraging children to show kindness to one another in different ways, finding a toy for someone so that they can join in, letting others have their own ideas, using kind words to help us to share toys, resources and space, and using kind words to make others feel good about themselves. "I like the way you..." helping children to draw on the positive qualities, skills and talents of each other.

In the garden we will be continuing to care for the stag beetles, and checking on the larvae. We spotted that a couple had emerged and we aim to release all of them into the log-gery in the woodlands, preparing the soil under the logs and then emptying the five containers of larvae and emerged beetles. They will enjoy the rotten oak logs here and will hopefully find food and a place to lay their eggs. It will be part of our continuing work showing children how to care for all living things and how to protect their habitats.

A hibernaculum will be the next habitat to build to help protect newts and frogs.

As the leaves change and fall we will be walking around the environment looking for signs of autumn, like berries, and other fruit, seed heads, and red, yellow and orange leaves. We will collect and sort leaves, we will look at autumn pictures and paintings and we will make autumn torn pictures and collages. We will be comparing and ordering leaves.

As Christmas approaches we will be looking at Christmas Characters, Cards, Crowns and Calendars. The children will enjoy a range of Christmas stories written from different perspectives, they will get the opportunity to retell and act out the Christmas story with age appropriate Nativity sets. We will enjoy transferring paint and colour in different ways, dragged string, rolling marbles, printing with stampers, natural items and hands. We will use tinker trays full of sparkles, glue and dough to create Christmas decorations.

We will be sorting, grouping, counting, measuring and ordering by size—Christmas cards, Christmas symbols, chains, and

Invoices

We kindly ask you to make sure that your invoices for December are paid in full and monies cleared before the end of term, **17th December**. Thank you in advance, and thank you if you have already paid in full. Please be aware that the new invoice for January will be sent to you around 28/29th December allowing you to budget for its arrival.

We ask that the January invoice be paid and cleared by **15th January**, which is 2 weeks in advance, 2 weeks in arrears. If you want to change your monthly payment to a weekly or 2 weekly invoice please let us know. This method has a definite pay day deadline. For some it may be easier to budget and pay this way. This would be a BACS transfer, we don't handle cash.

If you are in financial crisis please speak to us and we can try to find ways to help you and groups to support you.

Boosters...

The Lateral Flow Testing kits are freely available, please make use of them if you find that you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID. Be aware that if you have school aged children at home the infection rate is high amongst this group.

Boosters are available to book, and there are some walk in centres too if you are prepared to queue!

Merry Christmas!

We wish you a very merry and safe Christmas for 2021, and send the very best wishes for the New year ahead.

Let's all hope that 2022 brings good health for everyone!

Warm clothing...

The cold weather has certainly been with us, plus the odd storm! Please continue to send a warm outer coat, a lower layer of jumper or fleece, woollen or fleece hat, gloves and scarf. The children still want to play outside and can only do this if they have the correct clothing. Splash suit/water proof All-In-Ones are really useful for water play. Wellington boots help to save their shoes from getting wet!