

# Little Acorns Pre-School

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## Newsletter No.2- November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to all our children and families. We hope you all had a lovely half term break! We hope you are all ready for a busy half term!

**Topic for this half term** - Our theme for this half term is 'Lights and Christmas'. This term we will learning about Bonfire night and fireworks, Diwali, Fire Safety, day and night {Opposites}, shadows and of course Christmas!

**Messy play/activities** - At Little Acorns, we believe that the children should experience a wide range of activities and have the opportunity to engage and explore with a range of resources. Therefore, please could you send your child to nursery in clothing that you don't mind getting dirty or messy. Also, please ensure that your child comes to nursery with appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather. E.G: Coat, Wellies, Hat, Gloves and scarves! {All named, if possible, please!}

**Spare Clothes** - At nursery we have some spare clothes if your child needs changing, however please could you ensure that there is at least one change of clothes in your child's bag every day. Also, if your child borrows some nursery clothes, please could you wash them and return them back to us! Thank you. **Also, we are in need of more spare clothes, including pants/knickers and socks. If you have any unwanted children's clothes, we will gladly give them a new home! Thank you!**

**Packed Lunches** - At Little Acorns we promote healthy eating and we are working hard to teach your child about healthy food choices and the importance of exercise to look after our bodies. Please could you ensure that you are giving your child healthy food items in their packed lunches. Also, please can you remember to encourage your child put their lunch box on the Lunch Trolley when they enter the Preschool in the morning.

**Snacks** - Thank you for bringing in snacks for the children to share together at snack times. Please continue to bring in fruit, vegetables including cucumber and tomatoes, cheese twists, crackers or breadsticks as these foods support our healthy eating ethos.

**Book Bags** - Every child will be issued with a book bag over the next few weeks. Please can you ensure that these are bought into Preschool every week, to enable the books to be changed regularly. Also, when your child leaves our setting, the book bag **MUST** be returned. Please be aware you **WILL** be charged if the book bag or book is lost or damaged.

**Road Crossing** - Please do park and use the school crossing patrol. This will help ease congestion at the front of the school. Parking on yellow zig-zags will incur a fine.

**Start/Finish Times** - The nursery day begins promptly at 9am and we open the door at **8:50am**. The morning session ends at 12pm and the afternoon session begins at 12pm. The nursery day finishes at 3pm. Please be **prompt** when dropping off/collecting your child at the beginning and end of their sessions. We appreciate on

RARE occasions, there may be a reason you are late dropping off/collecting your child but when you arrive late, we have to release a member of staff to come down and open the gate, which means we are out of ratio in the setting. If you are late regularly, you **will** be charged!

**Committee Vacancy** - We currently have a vacancy for a parent representative on our Nursery Committee. The role would include attending meetings to discuss the running of the Preschool, so it is a great opportunity to express your views on what is working well in the setting or areas you feel could be improved. The meetings are held five times a year currently and from 1.30-2.30pm. If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee, please speak to Sarah or Shola.

**Unwanted toys** - If you have any unwanted small world toys, such as Peppa pig or Happyland, or any role play toys, we will gladly give them a new home!

**Starting School September 2024** - If your child is due to be starting school in September 2024, you will need to apply for a school place through West Sussex. Please submit your application by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

**Stay and Play Sessions** - Over the next term, we will be inviting parents/carers into the setting to a stay and play session with your child. These 1-hour sessions provide an opportunity for you to engage in some of the activities we provide at pre-school with your child. See dates below for the stay and play sessions. We look forward to you joining us in these fun sessions!

**Pre-School Christmas Show** - The children are busy learning Christmas themed songs ready for our show! We would like to invite parents/carers into Pre-school on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm to watch our fantastic performance which will commence at 2:15pm! If your child does not usually attend pre-school on a Wednesday afternoon, please speak to Sarah or Shola.

**Heavy Rain** - At the end of the day {3pm}, if it is raining heavily, we will ask parents to wait outside of the gate. We will gather the children under the wooden shelter on the playground and a member of staff will bring your child to the gate to meet you. This is for the children's safety as this is our priority. Thank you for your co-operation with this procedure.

<b>Diary Dates</b>	
23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2023 -2pm - 3pm	Stay and Play Session
6 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 - 2:15pm	Pre-school Christmas Show
13 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Christmas Party Day
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Christmas Party Day
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Last Day of Term
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 -	Christmas Holidays
2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2024	INSET Day
3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2024	INSET Day
4 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 - 9am	Back to Pre-school

**Little Acorns Team**

