Little Acorns Pre-School

Bersted Green
Primary School
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Newsletter No.3- January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a fabulous end of term. Our performance was lovely. We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and a happy new year to you all!

Staffing - We would like to introduce our new member of staff Melissa to our team and hope you will all join us in making her feel welcome.

Topic for this half term - This half term's topic is 'Animals'. We will be learning about different animals including farm, zoo and wild animals, Birds, dinosaurs and pets. We will be sharing stories, learning about the animal's habitats, what they eat, climates/where the animals live in the world and which food produce we get from animals.

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. 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.

Parking - Please DO NOT park in the school car park under any circumstances. This car park is for staff only.

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 representive 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^{th} January 2024.

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!

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.

Diary Dates			
3 rd January 2024	INSET Day		
4 th January 2024 - 9am	Back to Preschool		
Wednesday 24 th January	Stay and Play session		
2024 - 9am - 10am			
Monday 12 th February-	Half Term		
Friday 16 th February 2024			
Thursday 28 th March 2024	Last Day of Term		
Friday 29 th March – Friday	Easter Holiday		
12th April			
Monday 15 th April 2024	Back to Preschool		
Monday 6th May 2024	Bank Holiday - Preschool Closed		
Monday 27 th May – Friday	Half Term		
31 st May 2024			
Monday 3 rd June 2024	Back to Preschool		
Friday 12 th July 2024	Last day of Term		
Monday 15 th July 2024	INSET Day		