

# HELMDON ACORNS NEWSLETTER

DATE: 13TH JANUARY 2017



*Making bird feeders at Forest School on Friday*

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2017.

It has been a busy full week at Acorns. We welcomed Seth, Toby and Jack and it was lovely to see some of the older children helping them to settle in.

We are looking at mini beasts at the moment with activities ranging from sorting bugs by colour and type to making a collage of ladybirds and caterpillars.

The role play school provided a good opportunity for the children to practise putting on uniform and to use zips. We have also been encouraging them to try really hard to put their own shoes back on when they have been outside.



## Expanding learning

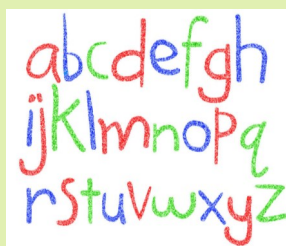
We have provided additional mark making activities in the role play school area and children also enjoyed using the sketch boards.

Some of the children are expressing an interest in letter formation and how to write their own name.

If they ask to do this at home, it is important that parents describe the letters by their sounds rather than their

names, as this is how they are learnt at school.

The sounds themselves are short so "sss" rather than "suh", there is a good demonstration here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSMsjwSzYV0>



## Dates for your diary:

- ◆ NEW DATE - Tuesday 24th January 2017, Acorns Committee AGM, All welcome.
- ◆ Tuesday February 7th - Gardening and cake at Acorns, from 9 till 11- All help gratefully received.



## Stars of the week:

Yellow Group	OLIVIA
Green/Turq. Group	JOEL
Blue Group	KEIRA
Red Group	ANNABELLE
Purple Group	CESCA

Phone: 01295 768327  
Mobile: 07743 470602  
Email:  
enquiries@helmdonacorns.org.uk

## Other snippets ...

Fridays will be Forest School day until February half term. Please ensure that your child wears leggings or trousers to protect their legs.

Several of the children have told us that their photobooks are at home; if this applies to your child, please can you bring the book into the setting or request a new one if needed as the children really enjoy showing their photos to their friends.

Show and tell – we are looking in the box with the children on a Monday and Tuesday only at the moment so please bear this in mind when bringing in items from home and ensure they are collected on Tuesdays to prevent items being lost.

## Committee News

*“Blue sky,  
sunshine  
every day,  
little acorns  
love to play”*

The committee are gearing up for our biggest meeting of the year with the AGM on Tuesday 24th January.

This meeting was moved back from September to allow new parents the chance to get to know staff and committee before deciding if they would like to know more about the setting with the possibility of becoming

involved in its voluntary committee or contributing to fundraising.

We would welcome all parents to this meeting, there is no obligation to sign up to any roles, or even on to the committee, but it may increase your understanding of how the setting is managed.

### Fees

Many thanks to all those who have paid promptly, our fees are set as low as possible as we are non-profit making so we rely on them arriving in a timely fashion to cover our outgoings.

### Inclement Weather

We do our very best to keep open in all weathers but please keep an eye on the Facebook page if the weather is particularly bad. We have only ever closed once during an open session in heavy snow but it is important that we are able to contact you at all times, so please let us know if your number changes. We endeavour to grit the paths if icy.

## Who's who, staff and committee:

*Setting Manager - Liz Hart*

*Deputy Supervisors – Kim Sadler and Susanna Morgan*

*Senior Practitioner - Zofija Wilson*

*Practitioners - Victoria Webster, Gina Rayner, Emma Houghton, Rebecca Fletcher*

*Chairperson - Ros Spence*

*Vice Chairperson - VACANCY*

*Secretary - Lorna Clarke*

*Treasurer - Kat Carter*

*Committee - Lynne McLuckie, John Gray, Lorraine Aust, Jo Page,*

*Charlotte Riley, Tiffany Swaggart, Gary Wilson.*

