



HELMDON ACORNS NEWSLETTER

DATE: 3RD FEBRUARY 2017



Dates for your diary:

- ◆ **NEW DATE**
Tuesday Feb 21st - Gardening and cake at Acorns, from 9 till 11- All help gratefully received.
- ◆ Friday 10th Feb - Last day of term
- ◆ Monday 20th Feb - First day of new term.
- ◆ Saturday 11th March - Fundraiser food quiz, details to follow

The children have been busy with scissors and pens this week making a creation for Valentine's Day. They enjoyed the warmer, if somewhat wetter weather outside especially on Wednesday when we had quite a few pirates playing on the ship and finding treasure and even a pirate themed story.

On Friday we had a fantastic Forest Schools session, chalking, sawing, whittling, bouncing, chasing, den building ... you name it.. We did it!

We been practising lots of number based songs with the children us-

ing their fingers to calculate how many remain when one is subtracted from a number. It would be great if you can reinforce this at home with "Three little monkeys" "Five little speckled frogs" etc.

We have been tracking the children's progress with the help of detailed observations which you will see as photos of written summaries on Tapestry; please ask if you would like more information. Parent consultations will be held next term; details to follow.

Next week

The children enjoyed knocking down a house of bricks so we will be looking at the "Three Little Pigs" story. There will be plenty of Maths and ICT opportunities in exciting new activities and the small world will be a farm.

We are encouraging the older children to set up games with their own "rules" (with adult support where necessary!).



Next September

You may have heard that from September 2017, working parents of 3 and 4 year olds may be eligible to access 30 hours of funded childcare per week. Liz attended a seminar this week at County Hall to receive some information and is expecting a further update soon.

Once we have all the information we will share it with you and check whether this affects the hours you wish to access from the autumn.



Stars of the week:

Yellow Group	OLIVIA
Green Group	LEWIS
Blue Group	SETH
Red Group	AMÉLIE DOUGLAS
Purple Group	FREYA

Other snippets - Show and tell ...

After half term Forest schools will move to Mondays to ensure all children get the chance to participate. Please dress your child appropriately



"Show and Tell" is done in a small group of interested children "talking table" rather than a whole group activity which can be too long for the younger ones.

From next week we will do this every day with a theme starting with objects beginning with the sound "a".

Please ensure that items are placed in the blue box rather than in your child's tray and are taken home each week.

Items left at the weekend will be placed in the red Lost Property Box if we cannot identify the owner (please label if possible).

Committee News

The fundraising section of the committee met in the this week for the first meeting to organise the 'Food for thought' fundraising quiz. Following the success of last year's event we decided to stick to the same theme of all answers being related somehow to food and drink as this meant that everyone had knowledge and would hopefully get involved. We are hoping to improve on last year's success with more tables filled.

Tickets will soon be available and can be purchased individually or as a whole team.

This event includes rounds where you test your taste buds with both food and drinks

Look out for posters soon.

If you are not part of the committee but would like to be involved in this, the next meeting is Tuesday 7th Feb, at The Bell at 1930

"Blue sky,

sunshine

every day,

little acorns

love to play"

Who's who, staff and committee:

Setting Manager - Liz Hart

Deputy Supervisors - Kim Sadler and Susanna Morgan

Senior Practitioners - Zofija Wilson

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

Chairperson - Lorna Clarke

Vice Chairperson - Gary Wilson

Secretary - Kat Carter

Treasurer - John Gray

Committee - Ros Spence, Lynne McLuckie, Lorraine Aust, Jo Page,

Charlotte Riley, Astrid Hernandez

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.