



HELMDON ACORNS NEWSLETTER

DATE - 15th September 2017

Update from this week



New friendships continue to form at Acorns and the children are becoming more confident in asking for toys and games they would like to see. We used our dinosaur theme in the play dough are making dino eggs and practised our fine motor skills as we did so. Inside we have rearranged the room slightly to open up the home area and moved snack into the new maths corner which will allow more room for the practitioners to sit down and talk to the children when they come for snack. The mud kitchen was very well used this week (apologies for any changes of clothes required!) and the children also led the play in re-arranging parts of the slides to make a kind of pull-yourself along obstacle course.

The first Forest School session of the term went well with Sue explaining the rules about the Fire Circle to the children (we don't have a fire until the children are well aware of where they should sit) and then lots of den building, exploring and some weaving.

We watched a pigeon and a squirrel having a bath in the pond, much to the amusement of some of the children.



Dates for your diary:

- ◆ **Tuesday 19th September ~ Acorns Committee Meeting - 7.30pm at Acorns.**
- ◆ **Tuesday 3rd October ~ Helmdon Primary School Open Morning—11am—12noon**
- ◆ **Friday 20th October—last day of term—Wear it Pink Day—details to follow**
- ◆ **Monday 30th October—Acorns closed (training day)**
- ◆ **Tuesday 31st October—first day of term**
- ◆ **Wednesday 1st November ~ Acorns Parents Evening—details to follow.**

Next week

Lots of our children like different textures so we will be getting the gloop out. Peppa Pig is very popular with our younger children so we will be following that interest too. There will be opportunities for colour mixing too. Thank you for the photo books received so far, we will be using them in our key worker groups next week.



REMINDER

Please ensure your child comes in with a NAMED beaker of water to Acorns to allow your child to access water at all times.

Star of the week

Stars of the week:

Yellow	JACK T
Green	LUCA
Blue Group	ALEIGHA
Red Group	NOAH
Purple Group	HENRY



Tapestry and learning

Settling in observations are on Tapestry and it is great to see so many of our parents commenting on observations or entering new ones themselves. **Please can all parents ensure that they complete the 'All About Me' section on Tapestry if they have not done so already.**

When we complete observations on the children we also note which age/developmental stage the observation we have seen relates to, for example 16-26 months, 22-36 months, 30-50 months. Please note that this is not necessarily the stage your child is at overall in that learning area, simply what was observed by the practitioner at that time. At periodical points the practitioners review the observations and use their professional judgement to decide where your child is for each area of learning. We do this on entry for new children and then at half term for all children. There will be a parents evening on Wednesday 1st November when your child's key worker will discuss fully and answer any queries you have but please don't wait until then if you have any concerns about your child's development, we have an open door policy. There is a very useful guide here which gives you an idea about things that a child is likely to be able to do at different ages/stages:

www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/4children_parentsguide_2015_WEB.pdf

Transition to School

Helmdon Primary School are having an open morning on Tuesday 3rd October between 11am-12noon.

Pick Up Time

Please can parents and carers support us in keeping everyone safe by ensuring that any accompanying children keep away from the key code door as it is difficult to see small children there and the door is opened often at busy times. Once parents are in the cloakroom for pick-up, please stay inside until your child is transferred to you—thank you.

Committee News

The first committee meeting of the term is to be held on **Tuesday 19th September** where we hope to discuss upcoming fundraising events. We will have more details after the meeting which we will share with you in future newsletters.

For information on committee information and events, please see the notice board in the Acorns cloakroom.



Setting Manager—Liz Hart

Deputy Supervisors - Kim Sadler and Susanna Morgan

Senior Practitioners - Zofija Wilson (Maternity Leave), 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, Astrid Hernandez