

HELMDON ACORNS NEWSLETTER

DATE: 18TH NOVEMBER 2016

This week ...



It was lovely to welcome Zofija back this week from a period of absence.

We enjoyed practising our balancing skills on an obstacle course outside and using sticks to draw shapes and numbers in the sand.

The outdoor café was popular too.

Inside we did lots of

small group work, new floor jigsaws had the children working well in teams whilst the photobooks provided an opportunity for the children to discuss their families and learn about those of their friends.

All children should have received a photobook when they first started but there are several children without one in the setting. If you have one at

home and would like photos printed off please email to enquiries@helmdonacorns.org.uk It is great for the children's self-esteem to be given the opportunity to show their peers pictures of things they have done with family and friends.

Please check with a member of staff if you are not sure if we have your child's here.

Dates for your diary:

- ◆ Friday 25th November - parent and committee social, curry night in Brackley.
- ◆ Friday 9th December - Brackley round table Christmas collection, in Helmdon, full details below.
- ◆ Monday 19th December - Nativity—more to follow
- ◆ Tuesday 20th December - Last day of term.
- ◆ Thursday 5th January - First day back in new year.



Thank You All For Your Support

We all wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported the fireworks event this year, from the staff including the children in the build up and educating them about the significance of fireworks night, the committee for organising and running the various area on the night, Thank you to all the parents and children who helped out with the set up, during the evening and with the clear up the following day. A final huge thanks goes to all who attended. Without your support by attending the night this would not have been the success it was.

This is the biggest fundraising event in Acorns annual calendar and this year we have again ex-

ceeded our expectations by raising around £1600 from the evening, which we will be putting to full use and will update you here on the purchases made.

We will be having a de-brief meeting next week and are always looking for ways to improve this event so we welcome any feedback, please send any comments to Ros (committee chair) at chair@helmdonacorns.org.uk

Thank you again to all who supported this event. See you again next year???



Stars of the week:

Yellow Group	JOSHUA
Green Group	LUCIA (TO BE GIVEN TUE)
Blue Group	ALEIGHA
Red Group	DOUGLAS
Purple Group	JOSEPH

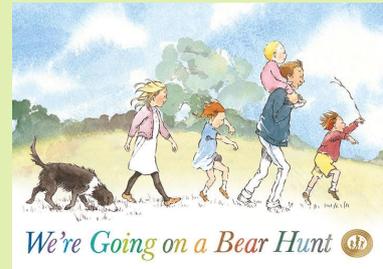


Forest Schools

We have run Forest School on the last two Thursdays and from next week this will be changing to FRIDAYS.

There are a lot of younger children in the Thursday session whom we think would benefit more from a late Spring schedule of sessions when they are a bit older.

This week the children did "Going on a Bear Hunt" and fed the birds.



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

Lending Library - (purple box in reception)

Please can we have all books back by Tuesday just to check that we are not missing any and the box will then be placed back out again

Hats, gloves and scarves

As the weather gets colder the children will need hats and gloves - please ensure these are named. The children will be asked to keep these in their drawers; ideally they should stay in the setting.

Please ensure that your child has a named water beaker at each session.
There is a requirement upon us under the EYFS to provide water (rather than juice) so we ask for your support in this matter.



Good Luck Kerri

It's Kerri's last week at Acorns next week; she will finish on Friday 25th November but hopes to remain as bank staff if her new work schedule permits. We will all miss her but hopefully she will pop in from time to time. GOOD LUCK IN YOUR NEW ROLE.

Parent and committee social night- 25th November

The parents and committee social night will be occurring next Friday. There are a few confirmed attendees and still space for more if you would like to join us.

I have not yet confirmed final numbers with the restaurant so can still alter the

numbers, but they would appreciate ample notice if there are going to be more than 10 of us attending.

If you would like to come along please email chair@helmdonacorns.org.uk.



Santa on his ... float in Helmdon, for Acorns

*“Blue sky,
sunshine
every day,
little acorns
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Brackley Round Table have a ‘Santa Float’ on the back of a small van, it is all lit up at night and plays Christmas music while Santa waves from out the chimney.

On Friday 9th December the ‘Santa Float’ is coming to Helmdon and the Round Table have agreed that the charities that will benefit this year are Friends of Helmdon School and Helmdon Acorns.

This is the first time we have benefited from this activity which is a firm favourite with the children.

All we need to do is support this on the night by at least 5 adult volunteers to act as some of the

‘runners’ following the float and knocking doors to make people aware of its presence and collecting donations. Children over 10 are allowed to come along but must be accompanied at all times by an adult.

We will be starting at 6pm and should be done by about 8pm, may be followed by a visit to the pub.

Fancy dress not essential, but highly recommended. If you can help please let Acorns know.



Coming up

Next week

We will be doing some baking early next week in our key worker groups to practise mixing and rolling and cutting out shapes.

Show and Tell days are MONDAY and TUESDAY from next week – please take objects home by Tuesday afternoon.

We welcome Emma Houghton to our staffing team. She is Level 3

qualified and will be working some Mondays and Fridays.

Looking forward

On Wednesday 30th November Barbara Gundle, a pottery painter, will be offering the opportunity of creating ceramic keepsakes.

This will take place during session time; details will follow from the Committee.

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We're on the web:
www.helmdonacorns.org.uk

*Helmdon Acorns, a
nurturing environment
in the heart of a
beautiful village,
enhancing the
development of
children through play.*

Who's who, staff and committee:

Setting Manager - Liz Hart

Deputy Supervisors – Kim Sadler and Susanna Morgan

Senior Practitioners - Kerri Seymour, Zofija Wilson

Practitioners - Victoria Webster, Gina Rayner

Chairperson - Ros Spence

Vice Chairperson - VACANCY

Secretary - Lorna Clarke

Treasurer - Kat Carter