

HELMDON ACORNS NEWSLETTER

DATE: 25TH NOVEMBER 2016

This week ...



An action packed week....

Mince pie making provided an opportunity for lots of measuring, mixing, rolling and turn taking skills with a tasty treat as an added bonus end result!

There was lots of fun with jelly and slime in the tuff trays, using construction vehicles to move the jelly about. The children were very interested in fire engine play and this sparked a visit from a real-life

fire truck with Kim even being dressed up as a fire fighter.

We are starting (very gently) to plan our Nativity – look out for a letter in your child's tray next week.

We welcomed Emma to the setting this week, the children enjoyed stories and telling her all about themselves.

Dates for your diary:

- ◆ Friday 9th December - Brackley round table Christmas collection, in Helmdon, full details below.
- ◆ Monday 19th December - Acorns Nativity play during the morning session, details below.
- ◆ Tuesday 20th December - Last day of term. Dolce lunch is Christmas Lunch—please order by 9th December.
- ◆ Thursday 5th January - First day back in new year.

How to give us feedback

Feedback

We always welcome feedback, whether formally or informally as we are constantly self-reflecting on our practice. We will shortly be issuing out a questionnaire asking for your views and suggestions which are then fed back to both staff and committee. In the meantime please do not hesitate to speak to us (or email if easier) with any queries or concerns.



Communication

A majority of our children now stay all day with us meaning that our 3:30pm pick up can be very busy and therefore difficult for us to communicate at length with parents. To improve this parents are welcome to wait a few minutes until children have been collected when all practitioners present will come into the cloakroom and be available for parent discussions.



Stars of the week:

Yellow Group	OLIVER
Green Group	JOEL
Blue Group	REUBEN
Red Group	ARTHUR
Purple Group	CHARLIE

Promoting Positive Behaviour

As children develop, they learn about boundaries, the difference between right and wrong and to consider the feelings of others and how their behaviour might impact upon them.

We aim to encourage and model appropriate behaviour and offer support when children struggle with emotional situations.

After careful reflection, we have decided to discontinue the use of the behaviour management board (green face, red face, etc) as we feel that it is not appropriate for the younger children who do not understand it and for many of the older children it is not having the desired positive impact. We will explain this to the children.

We will continue to role model good behaviour and promote good choices and to support the children to regulate and manage their actions.



Volunteers still needed

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 favorite 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 it's 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, maybe followed by a visit to the pub.

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



Next week

We will be thinking about people who help us (following on from the fire truck visit) and doing some more cooking.

Role play will be hospitals and the emergency services will feature heavily in the play room!

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

Those children who have ordered items will be supported in making their artwork.

For those who have not ordered pottery items they will be supported in completing other craft works of art.



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

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*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, Emma Houghton

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.

A big thank you...

From Kerri for the gifts, cards and well wishes she received this week. She promises to return when she can.