



HELMDON ACORNS NEWSLETTER

DATE - 17TH MARCH 2017

Update from this week.



The Children have been able to take advantage of the lovely weather this week, sometimes spending whole sessions outside. We are focusing on increased physical activity and trying to ensure that all children are as active as they can be - the government recommendation for under 5's is three hours per day of energetic play. We are encouraging the children to run between activity bases outside and use different movements such as skipping and hopping to increase their skills. We have been digging in both sand-pits, the digging pit and preparing the vegetable beds. The mound on top of the tunnel has been temporarily put out of circulation as it is very hard and several children scratched their faces taking tumbles down it. Forest School activities were den building and moving around logs which we had received from a fallen tree in the school grounds.



We have enjoyed lots of craft activities including threading and folding as well as sticking and mark making. We celebrated St Patrick's Day on Friday. For Communication and language we are reinforcing different nursery rhymes to the children - it would be great if you can build on this at home as it helps the children to understand the concept of rhyming.

On Friday we say a temporary goodbye to Zofija as she commences her maternity leave and wish her all the best in the com-

Dates for your diary:

- ◆ **Monday 20th March-** Parent Consultation evening
- ◆ **Tuesday 28th March** - Gardening Morning
- ◆ **Friday 24th March—** Red Nose Day— cakes available for sale throughout the week for 50p
- ◆ **Friday 31st March** - Last day of term
- ◆ **Wednesday 19th April** - First day of term



Next week

We will continue to prepare the garden for Summer and look at more life cycles.

The Post Office role play has been quite popular and we will extend on this activity.

For parents' evening on Monday, please remember to bring your child's report in with you (applies to children not leaving this July as the leavers will receive theirs in May)

It's Red Nose Day next Friday; throughout the week the children will be making cakes which will be available at the end of the sessions for a donation. We will also run a sweepstake for staff and parents.



Stars of the week:

Yellow Group	OLIVIA
Green Group	JOEL
Blue Group	KEIRA
Red Group To follow	AMELIE ANNABELLE
Purple Group	TOBY

Committee News

The 'Food for Thought' Quiz last Saturday evening was a huge success, with all tickets being sold. Congratulations to team 'The Leftovers' on winning the trophy. We have had amazing feedback from all who attended - everyone seemed to have a great night....along with a few sore heads the next day!

Thank you to all who came along and supported the event. We are absolutely delighted to announce that we managed to raise a grand total of **£673** for Acorns - which will contribute towards tidying up the outside play area for the children —**THANK YOU!!!**



The next gardening morning will take place on Tuesday 28th March. Although we manage to get a small amount of gardening and maintenance achieved on our gardening mornings, there are some larger maintenance jobs which are mounting up. Therefore we are looking to organise a garden 'work' party during the Easter holidays where we would appreciate as much help as possible from parents to help to tidy up the outside area. Children are more than welcome, however will be your responsibility. Further details to follow in next week's newsletter, however if you are interested, please see any member of the committee or Liz. Thank you for your support.

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.



Forest school takes place on Mondays to ensure all children get the chance to participate. Please dress your child appropriately