



HELMDON ACORNS NEWSLETTER

DATE - 20TH MAY 2017

Update from this week.



The older children have been learning about letter sounds, we start with 's' 'a' and 't' and we are helping them to sound out the initial letters in common words.

We have swapped around the Maths area with a role play one to bring quieter areas closer together and set up a new ICT area. If anyone has any working calculators (especially the large ones) to spare we would be very appreciative of them. This week the children have used the Kindle Fires for limited periods and programmed the 'Beebot' to move and turn to reach a destination.

Ros has made a great start on a new wall mural; the leavers will be able to place a handprint on the wall before the end of term.

In Forest School we made crowns and looked for fairies and had a second shorter session on Friday afternoon to include some children who don't attend Thursdays. We released some of the baby frogs into our pond which was very exciting.

On Thursday the weather was kind for 'outdoor classroom day' and we had lunch outside which the children really enjoyed. By Friday the weather had turned again and so for PE we constructed an obstacle course to music with tunnels and nets over the tables which involved lots of crawling.

Stars of the Week

We have decided to award stars of the week every two weeks to ensure that it is seen as something quite special so we are awarding them this week and then weeks 1,3,5 and 7 next term. They will be handed out at your child's first session after Friday afternoon.



Stars of the week:

Yellow Group	Sophie
Green Group	Oliver P
Blue Group	Kian
Red Group	Noah
Purple Group	Charlie

Dates for your diary:

- ◆ **Friday 26th May** ~ Last day of term
- ◆ **Monday 5th June** ~ First Day of term & photographer
- ◆ **Tuesday 6th June** ~ Photographer
- ◆ **Friday 9th June and Wednesday 14th June** ~ 'Stay and Play' at Helmdon Primary for those starting in September—details next week
- ◆ **Tuesday 27th June** ~ Transition morning at Helmdon Primary
- ◆ **Wednesday 28th June** ~ Leavers trip—ACORNS CLOSED—details next week
- ◆ **Tuesday 4th July** ~ final transition morning at Helmdon
- ◆ **Monday 10th July** ~ Sports Day—details to follow
- ◆ **Friday 21st July** ~ Last day of term- details to follow

Next Week

We will be setting up a market stall as role play and hopefully the weather will allow us to learn about capacity during water play. We would like to do a cookery session and plant up some more things in the garden.

Our story theme will be the Three Billy Goats Gruff (handy that we have a little bridge in the garden)!

Fees from September 2017

The rate for non-funded hours will increase from £4.15 to £4.30 (+3.6%) which is in line with the funding we receive for three and four year olds. Snack will remain at 25p where chargeable. Term dates for next year have been issued and these include the fee instalment dates to allow for budgeting. Our fees policy regarding late payers was reviewed at the committee meeting this week and will be summarised in next week's newsletter for clarity. As we are a charity, we rely on prompt payment of fees to meet our outgoings so your assistance with this is always greatly appreciated.

Who's who, staff and committee:

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, Hannah Foulkes

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



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