



Helmdon Acorns

Newsletter

Friday 15th December 2017

News from this week

The snow caused disruption at the start of the week but after an afternoon clearing it on Monday we opened on Tuesday in time to go to the school for their nativity. The children sat and listened very well and were even joining in where they knew the songs! The slushy snow on Wednesday gave us an opportunity to get outside for short sessions and create a ice world with polar bears and whales. Inside the children enjoyed a sensory tray with soap flakes and the role play was changed to a nativity scene.



Next week...

Monday 18th December: Children from Helmdon Primary School choir visit us in the morning for a short performance .

Tuesday 19th December: Nativity

9:00—All children taking part arrive and register

9:20—Doors open to spectators

9:30- Nativity starts

9:50—Nativity ends. Father Christmas visits

10:15—Parents and children who do not usually attend on a Tuesday depart

12:00, 12:30, 15:30—Pick-up of children normally attending on a Tuesday.

Wednesday 20th December: Forest School session and Christmas Dinner. Afternoon session finishes as normal at 3:30pm

School Applications Deadline

Parents of children who have their 4th birthday between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 need to apply for their school place for September 2018 by Monday 15th January 2018 at 5pm. Parents need to register online at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/admissions and will then get an email with a link which they will need to go through to make their application. Parents must press submit on completing their application and if they do go back into their application after that at any time up to the closing date, they must ensure they submit again.

Any problems concerning an application? Call 0300 126 1000 or email admissions@northamptonshire.gov.uk

30 hours extended entitlement

For children who could be eligible for the 30 hours from January 2018, the parent/carers will need to have completed the online check at [Childcare Services on or before 31st December](#). It's advisable to complete the check as soon as possible as not all eligibility checks for the 30 hours are straightforward and the team at HMRC may need to investigate the claim before granting the eligible DERN number



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Star of the Fortnight

Yellow Group	None this week
Green Group	Georgina
Blue Group	Zachary
Red Group	Sophie
Purple Group	Toby

Committee News

The committee are still looking for new members to join us at the AGM meeting that takes place on Tuesday 16th January 2018. This is a great opportunity to be part of shaping Acorns and helping with fundraising events. If you would like any more information please speak to Liz or a member of the committee.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year

Chairperson: Lorna Clarke, **Vice Chairperson:** Sammie Vale

Secretary: Kat Carter, **Treasurer:** John Gray

Committee: Lynne McLuckie, Lorraine Aust, Astrid Hernandez, Judy Wise

From the staff: A big thank you to the Committee for their help and support this year, from gardening, to fundraising events, present wrapping, buying emergency grit, snow clearing, and general all round support.

Dates for your Diary

19.12.17: Nativity Show, 9:30am

20.12.17: Last day of term. Special Forest Schools and Christmas Lunch.

04.01.18: (Thursday) First day of Spring Term 1

Reminder

Please ensure that children have named hat and mittens at the setting for our final week. Please note that mittens are much easier for everybody than gloves! Your child should keep them in their tray for easy access during the session.

Acorns Team

Setting Manager: Liz Manager

Deputy Supervisors: Kim Sadler & Susanna Morgan

Practitioners: Victoria Webster, Gina Rayner, Emma Houghton, Rebecca Fletcher,

Bank staff: Hannah Foulkes