

HELMDON ACORNS NEWSLETTER

DATE - 30TH JUNE 2017

Update from this week



We were very proud of the Helmdon pre-schoolers on Tuesday as they enjoyed a morning with Mrs Last and Mrs Whitehouse. Some children painted a self-portrait and others played in the hat shop or with a knight's castle. At break time we went on to the school field with all the other pupils and it was great to see the Acorns scattered to the four corners playing with different groups of children.

On Wednesday we had a fantastic trip to Stanwick lakes. A sensory walk in the morning was followed after lunch with an extended water and sand play session (the weather just about held off!) and we had some lovely comments from the children about how much they had enjoyed themselves.

Back at Acorns we reorganised the outside area to give the child more play opportunities and have been practising our Sports Day races in earnest. Forest School on Thursday was mud printing which was very popular. The children were busy washing and caring for the baby dolls and our new "Animal Boogie" storysack was a great hit on Friday. If you would like to play it for the children: <http://tinyurl.com/y9swws8m> .

We were delighted to hear that we have been successful in a grant application for £5,000; this money will be spent on a new outdoor surface under the canopy which we hope to have installed this summer.

Next week

This Monday sees the final drumming workshop before our concert on Monday 17th July. Tuesday is "Move Up day" with the Helmdon pre-schoolers having their final session at school whilst at Acorns we welcome the parents and children starting with us in September. We will continue with the construction site and baby care as role play set-ups and Happyland as small world play. We are also going to do some sand pictures.

Dates for your diary:

- ◆ **Tuesday 4th July** ~ final transition morning at Helmdon, drop off at Acorns at 9am
- ◆ **Monday 10th July** ~ **9:15am to 10:30am Primary School Field** :open to all our children. If your child does not attend on a Monday, you are most welcome to bring him/her along but please let us know in advance (separate email will be sent on Monday to those children to confirm) so we can organise teams, etc. Please ensure your child is wearing trainers and suitable clothing. All parents and relatives are invited to watch the fun
- ◆ **Monday 17th July**— **Drumming Concert**— details to follow
- ◆ **Wednesday 12th July** ~ **Visit to Helmdon School to see 'Matilda'**
- ◆ **Friday 21st July** ~ **Last day of term- performance and raffle draw (morning)** - details to follow

Transitioning to school—final week

Children going to Helmdon will have the following sessions:

Tuesday 4th July - a two and a half hour session 9.15 - 11.45; we will take the children into the classroom and stay with them if required, and bring them back to Acorns. If your child does not normally attend on a Tuesday, you are welcome to bring them for the 9-12 morning session. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO DO THIS. Also let us know if you would prefer to pick them up from School at 11.45am rather than from Acorns at 12 noon.

Friday 7th July - the current year 5s who will be next year's Year 6 buddies to the new reception children, will meet us informally on the field with Mrs Crouch for games during the morning session. If your child does not normally attend on a Friday, please let Liz know if you would like to book an ad hoc session.

Fees

The final fee payments are due on 10th July; please ensure that your account is clear by that date. A reminder that from September our hourly rate is £4.30 per hour.

Committee News

There will be a Committee meeting this Tuesday 4th July at Acorns at 7:30pm. All are welcome to join us. We are hoping to arrange a music/bar night at the beginning of the holidays in Helmdon Reading Room to fundraise for more construction toys. This will be confirmed next week.

All parents should have received a book of raffle tickets to be drawn on the last day of term; there are some great prizes so please contribute if you are able. Any unsold tickets should be returned to be re-sold. Many thanks.

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