

Little Stars Pre-school

Newsletter September 2024

Welcome to the New Term - Autumn 2024!!

Firstly, we would like to welcome all our new children at Little Stars Pre-school and all of our little ones returning. We hope you had a lovely summer break, and we can't wait to hear all about your adventures.

Team News

Unfortunately, Anita is still recovering from her broken foot/ankle, and we hope she will return soon. We have a new Apprentice starting with us in September. Chelsea will be studying her Level 3 with us and will be Key Person to Orange Group. Chelsea has worked at Farlington Wraparound for 7 years and is going to carry on working there in the holidays. We are looking forward to her joining our Team and gaining her qualification.

If you have Facebook - please follow us, as we put up photos and information during the session, every day. [Follow, Little Stars Pre-school Farlington.](#)

Raising Funds for our playground - as you maybe aware, we are raising funds to replace our outside playground. The cost is a big one and unfortunately, we do not qualify for any grants etc because we are privately owned. When we return, we are going to be giving all the children a sponsored find form, and it would be really appreciated if you could help us by asking family and friends to sponsor them. Thank you in advance.

I know the Newsletter can be a little long, but can I encourage you to read it all as it does contain a lot of important information and if there is anything you would like to speak to us about, please do not hesitate to do so by either text, phone or e-mail.

Please refrain from messaging on Facebook as we do not always get these messages or see them.

Our Term Dates, Colour of the week, Important Dates for Your Diary and Song of the week can be found at the end of this Newsletter. Please take a look as this is very important information.

Please can we ask that the children refrain from wearing jewellery to pre-school, with the exception of stud earrings. We have had a few incidents of lost items and also, some safety issues including broken beaded jewellery and necklaces being pulled.

Please ensure that you inform us of any changes in your e-mail address and phone numbers. We communicate, mostly, through e-mail and text now rather than paper and it is essential that we have the correct contact information.

We cannot stress enough how important it is to keep everyone safe from coughs and colds where possible. If your child has a raised temperature or is not feeling their normal self, please keep them home until they are feeling better. We know this can be difficult for working parents, but we cannot stress enough how important it is for the children to be warm and cosy at home to recover and get better to come back to pre-school and be with their friends and teachers.

This half term our topic will be "All About Me" We will be talking about our families, our pets, our senses, why we are special, healthy foods, our favourite things and looking at the changes in the season. Our activities will include different kinds of painting, including, sponge painting, vegetable printing, ice painting and creating collages. Please can we ask that over the half term your child brings in a photo of family and any pets, if they have them, for us to share while doing these activities. In our maths activities we will be weighing and measuring, threading, counting and finding out How Many? Outside in physical play, we will be practising our ball skills, balancing skills and having treasure hunts. We will also make playdough each week, to match our colour of the week, that you can find at the end of this Newsletter.

Jolly Phonics

Each week we follow the Jolly Phonics programme

09/09/24	S
16/09/24	A
23/09/24	T
30/09/24	I
07/10/24	P
14/10/24	N
21/10/24	ALL

Please continue to use the hand sanitiser provided for both you and your child when dropping off and picking up. All of children have their temperature taken first thing and throughout the day and if their temperature is high, you will be asked to come and collect them.

LET'S STAY SAFE AND DO WHAT WE CAN to still prevent contamination!

Can we also ask that when dropping off and picking up your child/children, that you go into the playground and wait for a member of the team to be at the steps to take your child from you at drop off time or handing over to you at the end of their session. Please refrain from waiting on the pathway or coming down the steps. Thank you.

Extended Hours

We offer breakfast 8am-9am for Parents/Carers that may need that extra childcare. We are happy to take older siblings that need to be taken to Solent Infants or Juniors (Unfortunately we are unable to drop off at other schools in the area). If this is something you need, then please speak to Julia or Jo or drop us an e-mail. If you know anyone that this might help, please pass on our details. Can I also say that we can take children up to the age of 8 years of age, this means that children can come to us when on Inset Days. Again, please let us know if we can help or let anyone else you know that this might help.

Invoices

Please be reminded that invoices need to be paid promptly to avoid arrears. **Invoices need to be paid in full by return, and definitely before the end of each half term, as agreed in your payment policy.** Full Payment by the last Wednesday of each half term has always been a gesture of good will from myself to help with spreading the payments, it is not a date for the invoice to be left unpaid until then. Therefore, I am asking that Invoices be paid by return. If you need to pay weekly over the half term, then you will need to agree this with me. I am sorry to have to change this, but it becomes very frustrating and embarrassing to have to chase for fees owing.

Please note that we do not accept cheques at Little Stars Pre-school.

Fees are as follows:

2-3 years - £7.00 per hour

3-4 years - £6.80 per hour

Extra sessions and lunches are to be paid on the day attending.

We are experiencing lunches and extra sessions not being paid for on the day, or in advance, as well as invoice payments being left right to the last minute and resulting in us having to chase for payments that can be a little embarrassing as well as worrying. Please ensure these payments are made promptly. Can I also

remind you that if you require Breakfast Hour or 3-3.30pm please give us notice in advance even if the day/night before.

Collection of Children.

Please be reminded that if collecting your child before 12 noon or 3pm you will need to collect them before 11.45 or 2.45pm as to not disturb story time. We would also appreciate it if we know you are collecting early to enable us to have your child ready to bring them to you at the front door.

Lunches

Please can we remind you that we do not have sweets, this includes fruit winders and Bear products, chocolate bars etc, fizzy drinks or ANYTHING containing NUTS in our lunchboxes, that includes peanut butter as we can have children with severe allergies. We promote healthy eating and **GRAPES AND LARGE BLUEBERRIES NEED TO BE SLICED LENGTHWAYS to avoid potential choking hazards**. Can we also ask that an ice pack be placed in your child's lunch box please as we do not have a large fridge to store them in during the morning.

Being ready for all weathers

Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for both inside and outside with them in a named bag and all items have their name in. The hall can be quite cold in the mornings until we come in and turn up the radiators. Please ensure that your child is dressed ready for the day with adequate changes of clothing including suitable footwear in their named bag. Please name all belongings including coats, shoes, hats, changing bags and lunch boxes. If your child wears wellington boots to pre-school, please supply a named change of shoes or slippers for us to change them into. Please supply, a named, suncream if you do not want us to use ours. Please apply suncream before your child attends pre-school as we will only apply after lunch. PLEASE ensure your child brings in a hat with their name in!!

Pre-existing Injuries

It is essential that you let us know when you drop off if your child has a pre-existing injury, this could be a bump, bruise, rash or sore etc. You will need to complete a pre-existing injury form before leaving. If we discover a pre-existing injury after dropping off, we will contact you and complete a form that will need to be read and signed on collection.

Song of the week

Please encourage your child to sing our weekly song at home with family and friends.

Week beginning	
09/09/24	Tommy Thumb
16/09/24	Baa, Baa Black Sheep
23/09/24	Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes
30/09/24	If you're Happy and You Know it
07/10/24	Row, Row, Row your Boat
14/10/24	Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star
21/10/24	5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer

Colour of the week

09/09/24	Red
16/09/24	Blue
23/09/24	Yellow
30/09/24	Green
07/10/24	Purple
14/10/24	Orange
21/10/24	Favourite

Colour of the week is something we use, within pre-school, to learn our colours and encourage the children to "Bring an item into Pre-school". Please ensure that any items are clean and have the colour of the week on them. The Teachers will ensure that all items are kept safe. Please encourage your child to find an item that coincides with "The Colour of the Week" above and bring it into Pre-school so

we can talk about colours and show and tell. The children also make playdough on a Monday to coincide with this each week.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 12th October - Little Stars Pre-school opened in October 2006. This year we will have been open 18 years!! We think this is something we should be celebrating, and we are having a "Celebration Afternoon" on Saturday 12th October, 1pm - 3pm. Please come and say hello. We will be joined by old Team members and hopefully see lots of children and parents from past and present. There will be refreshments and cakes to purchase as well as a raffle. All proceeds will go towards our much-needed new playground. Please come, it would be great to see you all!!

Little Stars Pre-school

Term Dates September 2024 - July 2025

1st Half Autumn Term 2023

Thursday 5th September - Friday 25th October

HALF TERM

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November

2nd Half Autumn Term 2024

Monday 4th November - Friday 20th December

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January

1st Half Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January - Friday 14th February

HALF TERM

Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February

2nd Half Spring Term 2025

Monday 24th February - Friday 4th April 2025

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 7th April - Monday 21st April

1st Half Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April - Friday 23rd May

BANK HOLIDAY - Monday 5th MAY (CLOSED)

HALF TERM

Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May

2nd Half Summer Term 2025

Monday 2nd June - Friday 18th July