

May and June Newsletter 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our newsletter I hope you are all well and another busy but a slight disruptive term so far! It is lovely to see all the new children developing friendships, settling into the routines and exploring the curriculum on offer with our older children role modelling and supporting the little ones. We are now well into our final and last term of the academical term.



After this newsletter we will offer a final newsletter in July. We have many events and special days ahead of us. Please always look out for notices, signs and displays on windows, gate and letters given so you don't miss out! We send out notifications on FAMLY app also for reminders.

I would like to address again that many Nurseries across the UK are being forced to close or reduce their services/close down rooms/or sessions at an alarming rate because they are struggling to recruit and retain staff to cover ratios.

The crisis is only set to deepen as more childcare providers go out of business, increasing demand for places and pushing prices even higher for families struggling with the rising cost of living. I understand we had to increase our prices but that was after 3 years. We haven't increased any monies on foods or our hourly rate, and we continue to provide a free meal for all 2 years funded children.

*The government has failed to invest in our early year's **workforce**. Nowadays we can't attract the staff and those with the right qualifications aren't coming through. The funding for early years doesn't cover staff wages so nurseries across the sector can't afford to pay more than the minimum wage and staff work very hard. **ALL** children deserve the best possible start in life especially in the Early Years between the ages of birth to five has a major impact on the future life.*

We at Little Stars are constantly in a process of recruitment with the staff changes due to personal reasons. This unfortunately results in having to turn away families on days we do not have staff to fulfil ratios, as agencies are also not able to provide us with qualified staff due to shortages across the whole sector.

We cannot negotiate the ratios or the 'Statutory Framework for the Early Year's Requirements'. I sincerely apologise in advance if this is the case, but please be reassured that we as a team try our best on a daily basis but the Early Years Sector and the government has let us down.

To help us PLEASE recommend or put a word out to friends and family who have CHILDCARE qualifications in Early Years/Nursery Nurses with a Level 2 or 3 to speak to us at the nursery.

Please work with us and not against us. We at Little Stars would appreciate your humble support right now. Save this wonderful sector from closing down. So many parents rely on childcare and local nurseries. We know the government has promised funding from a younger age in 2024 from 9 months but not advancing the payment amounts that could actually save jobs and the whole sector.

Dates to remember:

- * **Coronation Party** on 3rd & 4th May donations accepted
- * Monday 8th May **Coronation Bank Holiday** – Closed
- * Friday 26th May **INSET DAY** – Closed
- * **Half Term Holidays** – 29th May - 2nd June **Closed**
- * Monday 29th May **Spring Bank Holiday** – Closed
- * Half term open for private children only **tue / wed / thurs**
- * **Re – open** final term - **Monday 5th June @ 9am**



★ **TEMPEST Photography** are visiting on – **Wednesday 10th May**

All children will have their pictures taken on this day for you to purchase. Any pictures to be taken with siblings please let us know in advance as you will need to come in early or a set time to have these taken.



More events and dates:

- ❖ 1st - 31st May – Share a story month
- ❖ 2nd - 8th May – Children's Book Week
- ❖ 10th May – Tempest Photography are in
- ❖ 25th May – Last day at Nursery
- ❖ 1st-30th June - Pride Month
- ❖ 18th June – Father's Day
- ❖ 26th June – Diversity week
- ❖ 30th June – Rainbow Friday



Parents / Carer's

- Please greet your child with your smile and not your **PHONE**.
- **No Phones** to be used on our property whilst collecting or dropping your child.
- It's become a greater **SAFEGUARDING concern** – any recordings made of other children or families will be taken seriously and reported to the police.
- Thank you for understanding our nursery/staffing and a national situation of strikes that are happening. We understand they are disrupting daily lives.
- We try to keep you well informed the best we can. Always look out for notices and handouts. Please read them they carry important dates etc.
- Please take out your children's art work from bags and make sure you have the essentials for them for the day i.e., clothes. nappies, wipes etc.

Thank you, Nursery Management – *Reena Pharma*