

Newsletter September – October

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our first newsletter which will give you a broad outline of what your child will be learning this term. The children are settling in really well and we look forward to an enjoyable term.

Our topics this month is “Emotions/All About Me” and then “Traditional Stories and Rhymes.” We will discuss our likes and dislikes and what makes us all the same and different. We will explore the new nursery environment and observe seasonal change through the start of Autumn. Our curriculum is divided into seven different areas of learning, although they are not taught separately, but are usually linked together.

Our Mission Statement:

Little Stars Day Nursery is committed to provide a setting which will promote high quality and accessible childcare provided in a warm, caring and safe environment free from prejudice and discrimination.

WOW Moments

We would love to hear about those special “Wow” learning moments your child experiences out of nursery. It could be a new skill, such as swimming or riding a bike, following simple instructions of a game or activity, independently getting dressed, putting their shoes on, toilet training or using a piece of technology at home, taking their first steps or their first tooth has come out.

We would like to celebrate and record these moments in the ‘Wow Achievement Folder’ kept in the nursery and ask you share them with us. Please feel free to take and complete a wow moment sheet for your child at any time that will be kept at the entrance. This is something new we are doing and hope all parents can help and to celebrate their child's achievements with us.

Important information:

Anyone feeling unwell with flu like symptoms, colds, coughs and fevers are requested not to attend the nursery and please inform us of absences in the morning by **calling 0208 894 2590**. **If you suspect Covid-19 please book yourself for a test and please keep us informed, you are helping yourself, your family and all of us too. We are all in this together and can only help and protect each other if we do this correctly.**

If your child is on antibiotics then please 48 hrs before returning to the nursery. Any calpol or other medicines given on the day are not allowed to be attending nursery, as this means the child is unwell. Children on long term medicines that are prescribed can attend as normal.

Drop off and Collections

We really appreciate everyone waiting outside away from the patio door. We do try to form a line but our cones, chalk markings and tape disappears from the floor due to the texture of the flooring.

Please be mindful of all other parents around you and join the queue rather than walk past them, as everyone are here for the same purpose.

Also **PLEASE WEAR YOUR MASKS** when entering our nursery and **PLEASE SANITISE YOUR HANDS** at the entrance.

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We are going to continue with the same hours set at the start of September for all our funded children until half term due to COVID-19 as the cases rise around the local areas.

We are looking at protecting all families and staff and hope we can work together.

After half term from Monday 2nd November we will resume to normal hours for all children.

We will be in constant review of all situations as the safety of our children, staff and families will be number one priority.

You have to remember if our staff fall ill, it impacts our ratio working. If we have 2 or more cases, then we would have to shut down that classroom for 14 days. We have to follow guidelines and we want everyone to support us by following all safety measures we have in place. Please let's stay safe as we have so far.

Cleaning company

We clean all the time making sure our toys, resources, tables, chairs, door handles and banister are cleaned hourly. We have a cleaning company daily to make sure we have everything thoroughly cleaned for the next day. Hygiene is important and we are making sure it happens.

Mobile Phones

Please remember no phones are allowed to be used or displayed in parents' hands when entering the nursery. We take this very seriously and is a concern for safeguarding. We will refuse entry as so many parents are walking in and using their phones on our premises.

Sessions at nursery

We have many spaces and sessions available at the nursery. We would appreciate your help and word of mouth in the community to help promote and save the nursery business. Please enquire of more sessions or 2- and 3-year funding for 15/30 hours, term time or all year round. We have special discounts, please enquire by calling or asking.

Recommend a family who registers and gain a special gift from us.

Lunchboxes

Please remember to keep the contents healthy, nutritious and well balanced and remember to include a drink. Lollipops, sweets and chocolates are not appropriate for a lunchbox.

Nursery Meals

We are providing meals at the moment at the nursery but we are still reviewing this as we may consider closing the kitchen but we will keep you well informed at all times if we decide to, so please do not worry.

Nuts

We ask that the children do not bring nuts into school within their packed lunch boxes (this includes peanut butter within sandwiches) as there are a number of children in school who suffer from severe allergies. We appreciate your support with this matter.

Birthdays

We do not mind parents wanting to share their child's birthday with sweets which will be distributed at the end of day. Cakes can be shared at snack or as a pudding as long as they contain no nuts.

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Humphrey's Pyjama Week

A fun-filled fundraising activity for young children to take part in. For a voluntary donation of £2 per child, all staff and children can wear their pyjamas for the day and participate in a number of fun and educational themed activities, whilst raising funds for The Children's Trust.

Labelling

Please label your child's belongings i.e. bags, coats, shoes, indoor shoes, lunch boxes etc. Its very difficult to remember what belongs to whom. We appreciate your help in this matter.

First Steps App



Please download this app to access invoices and your child's observations, pictures and daily updates.

How to login onto the First Steps app

- Download the first steps app
- The user name: **your email address.**
- Password: **your child's first name (first letter in CAPS other letters in lower case) and then their DAY of birth, not the month or the year.**
- Each parent can access separate accounts.
- Once you are logged in you can reset the password to one of your choosing if you prefer.

Please do not keep logging in if you can't, you will only block your account and the App company will have to reset and can sometimes be time consuming.

New staff

We have grown as a team and are proud to introduce Marisa in the Baby room, Deanna in Toddler room and Amanda in the Preschool. We have had a few leavers of staff during lockdown and are happy to welcome our new recruits and wish them well and progression within our nursery.

Important Dates to remember:

Pyjama week 5th -9th October

Halloween Party 21st and 22nd October

Half Term 26th -30th October

Nursery website can be accessed on this link to newsletters and information:

<https://www.littlestars-daynursery.com/>

Link to apply for 2-year funding is available on here:

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/EY_2_year-old_funding_application/

Facebook links:

<https://www.facebook.com/LittlestarsdaynurseryLTD>

<https://www.facebook.com/Little-Stars-in-Hanworth-106983880697933>

Thank you, **Reena** (Nursery Manager)