

Winter Newsletter 2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR.....

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE.

We hope you all had a wonderful break and enjoyed the Christmas festivities. We are now back into a new term and fully up and running with activities and ideas to enjoy and share with the children.

We have had a few new children join us this term so welcome to you all and we hope that your journey with us here at Little Hands will be a fun adventure.



Covid

Our priority is still to keep Nursery as Covid free as possible, we are watching the guidelines carefully and updating our guidelines as needed. We are still having to limit visitors on site.

Covid is having an impact on us all at the moment and as you will be aware occasionally we are having to limit session sizes in an effort to stay open, we really appreciate the support you have shown us and continue to show us in helping to stay open. I hope that this will be a short term problem but with Covid the way it is at the moment we are just taking it week by week.

Please keep up to date with all the latest guidance we send out it's updated regularly as we get updated.

If your child has any of the symptoms of Covid then please keep them at home and get tested.

Nursery Day

Across both sides of the nursery we are following the children's interests to see where their play takes their learning, this has led to some really lovely learning opportunities and we are thrilled that learning in the moment is such a positive way for our children to learn.

The butterfly children have been sharing a book a week since last year and it has really worked well, they are so invested in each book and all the talking points that come from it each day. Courteney will continue putting a sign up each week so you know which book we are currently sharing and this will give you an opportunity to talk to your child about it at home (most books are available via you tube)

We also have a lending library at the front of nursery so please feel free to borrow a book and share at home, we have a returns book in the foyer so we can keep the books safely out of circulation once they have been returned.

The ladybird and Dragonfly children have enjoyed some time apart last half term with our 2 year olds spending some of their mornings in the Dragonfly room following their interests and having the opportunities to explore different things and smaller resources, this has been working really well! We will continue this as much as we can and start to teach the ladybird room children the routines that the Butterfly room children have to enable a smooth transition into that room when it's time.

PARENTS EVENING

We were unable to offer a virtual parents evening the term before Christmas. So we are looking at how we can do this over the next term. We know how important it is to have the opportunity to be able to update you about your child's progress and answer any questions that you might have. We had hoped to be able to do our coffee evening again but unfortunately because of the rise in Covid we have had to take the decision to do this virtually instead.

We are currently working out which evenings will work for us and then we can send you out a time and date. If you really can't make that time then we will try to move it around but our capacity to do this will be quite tight as it

needs to be conducted at work so we have some limitations on staff and time.

This term we will send out the next set of summative reports on your child. These are done termly and through Tapestry so nice and easy for you to access.

Illness

Our policy for the dreaded sickness and diarrhoea bug is 48 hours away from Nursery. Please don't bring your child into nursery until they have had 48 hours since their last bout. I really appreciate your support in this as I know how difficult this can be especially as normally after 24 hours they are bouncing around looking fine!!

For all other illnesses we follow the latest guidelines from NHS Direct which does change from time to time so if you are worried about whether to bring your child in then please do check the website. **If you have had to give your child any medication to help them get through the day ie Calpol then we would ask you to not bring them in that day.**

If your child has any covid symptoms we would ask you to please get your child to have a PCR test and wait for the results before coming back to nursery.

E-mail address

Our e-mail address is lh-melbourn@btconnect.com and lhmelbourn1@gmail.com if you would like to contact us in this way. Please note that the emails are not always checked if we are busy so if your query is urgent then please phone us instead.

PAYMENT OF FEES

Little Hands preferred payment methods are direct bank payments or Childcare vouchers. Payments should be made within 2 weeks of the invoice date or a late pay fee of £20 will be added. Alternative payment arrangements (cheque or cash) or timings may be possible please speak to the nursery manager in advance

Direct Bank Payments

Fees can be paid directly into the nursery bank account either at a bank/post office or via Internet banking. The nursery bank details are:

Bank: HSBC
Sort Code: 401659
Account Number: 60037524

The payment should be referenced with your child's name and written notification emailed to Jane Marshall little.hands@icloud.com stating your child's name, payment amount and date payment has been made; this is essential to prevent payments being mistakenly attributed to the wrong family. If email is not an option the written notification can be given as a note/letter to the nursery manager.

Collection of children

Please note that our pick up times are **12, 1.00, 3.00, 4.00 5.00 and 5.30** if you come at any other time then please be patient if we don't open the door straight away, we are often in numbers with the children and can't leave to open the door until we have made sure the children are safe, if you can stick to our pick up times (or as close as possible) it would be greatly appreciated.

