

# Little Stars Pre-school

## Newsletter February 2021

Welcome back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of Spring Term

We hope you had a lovely week. Please e-mail in any pictures of activities the children may have done over the Half Term so we can add them to their Special Books.

Just to let you know that staff are now Self Testing twice a week thanks to Portsmouth City Council.

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 don't always get these or see them.

This half term we are focusing on stories including Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Pirate stories, Monkey puzzle, Three Billy Goats Gruff and The Hungry Caterpillar.

Our Activities will include comparing sizes, little, medium and big, measuring and weighing. We will make our own treasure maps and patterns.

World Book day is Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March. We ask that the children who attend on this day dress as a favourite BOOK CHARACTER. Due to the current guidelines, we can only do this on this day.

The last week of half term, Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April, will lead to Easter where we will have an Egg Hunt, making cards and making crafty things.

COVID19 Guidance has not changed, so we will still be asking parents to drop off and pick up outside. **Please use the hand sanitiser provided for both you and your child, when dropping off and picking up and please wear a mask. Please remove your child's glove and ensure hands are sanitised before coming into pre-school.**

## Extended Hours

We offer breakfast 8am-9am for Parents/Carers that may need that extra childcare. We are happy to take older siblings and 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 talk 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

Invoices will still be issued for this half term. The Pre-school is open offering a service which means your child's space is still booked. If you choose not to bring your child into pre-school you will be charged any fees due. If the Government announces a National Lockdown and we are made to close, Invoices will be adjusted accordingly.

Please be reminded that invoices need to be paid promptly to avoid arrears. Invoices need to be paid in full before the end of each half term (by the Wednesday) as agreed in your payment policy. There is also the option to pay by Direct Debit or Bank transfer (see details on invoices) Please note that Cheques are no longer accepted at Little Stars Pre-school.

### Fees are as follows:

2-3 years - £5.25 per hour

3-4 years - £4.75 per hour

Please note that fees are due to increase from April 19<sup>th</sup>, they will be as follows: -

2-3 years - £5.75 per hour

3-4 years - £5.25 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.

### 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), or fizzy drinks in our lunchboxes as we like to 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

As the season changes please ensure your child has suitable outside wear with them and it has their name in. Can you ensure that names are added to all clothing. Please ensure that your child is dressed ready for the day with adequate changes of clothing, including a waterproof/warm coat with a hood and suitable footwear in their named bag. If your child wears wellies to pre-school, please ensure they have a change of footwear for indoors. We will put wellies on for outside activities. Please name all belongings including coats, shoes, hats, changing bags and lunch boxes.

### Song of the week

Please encourage your child to sing our weekly song at home with family and friends. If you are unsure of the songs please speak to your child's key person who will get the words for you or email me!!

Week beginning	
<b>22/02/21</b>	<b>Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear</b>
<b>01/03/21</b>	<b>A sailor went to sea sea sea</b>
<b>08/03/21</b>	<b>Miss Polly had a Dolly</b>
<b>15/03/21</b>	<b>Dingle Dangle Scarecrow</b>
<b>22/03/21</b>	<b>There's a worm at the bottom of the garden</b>
<b>29/03/01</b>	<b>Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his nose</b>

Colour of the week.

<b>22/02/21</b>	<b>Brown</b>
<b>01/03/21</b>	<b>Purple</b>
<b>08/03/21</b>	<b>Gold</b>
<b>15/03/21</b>	<b>Black</b>
<b>22/03/21</b>	<b>Green</b>
<b>29/03/21</b>	<b>Favourite</b>

Colour of the week is normally to encourage the children to bring in something from home that can be talked about in a large group (show and tell). Unfortunately, we cannot have the children bringing in items from home, so we will cover colour of the week in pre-school. We do ask that you encourage your child to do this activity at home and take a photo and send it in so we can print it and add it to their "Special Book"

#### HALF TERM

Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February

2nd Half Spring Term 2021

Monday 22nd February - Thursday 1st April

#### EASTER HOLIDAYS

Friday 2nd April - Friday 16th April

1st Half Summer Term 2021

Monday 19th April - Friday 28th May

BANK HOLIDAY - Monday 3rd MAY (CLOSED)

#### HALF TERM

Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

2nd Half Summer Term 2021

Monday 7th June - Friday 16th July