

Little Ashes Pre-School Newsletter

January 2021



Little Ashes Pre-School

Welcome to the January Newsletter. We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break, and wish you all a very Happy New Year. Please read and stay updated with our monthly newsletter.

COMMITTEE NEWS

The committee have been working hard to support all management and staff during these 'new normal' times. They are currently working on plans for future fundraising events to reconvene once Lockdown eases, in line with all government guidelines. We are all forever grateful for your quick responses to our recent COVID-19 cases within Pre-School. Thank You ☺

Some of you may already know that this September we will have a large number of children leaving us to start 'Big School' and with that being said there will also be a number of Committee members stepping down from their positions at our AGM in October 2021. Therefore, we are currently asking if any of our current parents/carers would be or know of anyone who would be interested in taking on any of the following Officer positions:

- **Chairperson**
- **Secretary**
- **Treasurer**

Can I please stress that LAPS will be forced to **CLOSE** if there is no interest shown in the above Officer roles. It is important to express any interests to a member of staff or Graham Whitehouse our current Chairperson on chair@littleashespreschool.co.uk, so that we can put all relevant training and hand overs in place before the new academic year begins. If you have any questions, feedback or our interested to learn more about the committee with ways in which you can be involved please do ask one of us.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is very important to everyone at Little Ashes Pre-School. We review our policies annually and keep up to date with new legislation and requirements. Policies are always available to parents/carers, please let us know if you require any policies through email.

OUR SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS FOR LITTLE ASHES ARE: Helen Inwood (Leader) on 07855215154 or leader@littleashespreschool.co.uk

Charlene Vanderpuye (Deputy) on 07855215154

And Molly Ratcliffe (Committee Safeguarding Officer) on 07534369164 (for emergencies and safeguarding concerns only) or safeguarding@littleashespreschool.co.uk

Staff News

You all were aware that the lovely Charlene was going to be away in Ghana with her family during Christmas and New Year. Following the current Lockdown and the closing of schools Charlene has made the decision not to send her daughter to school for the meantime and stay a little longer in Ghana, with plans to return before the half-term to complete the required isolation days before returning to work after the February half term. To all **Yellow Group** parents, observations will still be carried out by all the staff and posted onto eyLog.

If your child is unable to attend Pre-School due to illness, medical appointments or holidays; You **must** inform the Pre-School leader via email, phone or in person.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LITTLE ASHES PRE-SCHOOL: 07855215154

A warm welcome

This term we are very excited to be welcoming some new faces to Little Ashes Pre-School. Not only do we have new children starting their journey with us, we have also welcomed Julia Jack to the team to continue working alongside Becca part-time in Forest School now that she has completed her training. Julia has a wealth of knowledge and experience and so we are thrilled to have her on board. I am positive we will give everyone a warm Little Ashes welcome.

Activities this Term

We spent the first two weeks of term settling in our existing children and new starters. We are happy to see a lot of our children back at Pre-School even through this whole Lockdown and we are missing those face of the children who are keeping safe at home. We can't wait to see all your cheeky faces soon 😊

Our Space topic started last week (week 3) and we will be making this topic maths focused concentrating on assessing numbers, shapes, space and measure.

Week 3: 'Whatever Next' - The Moon

Week 4: 'Smeds and the Smoos' - Aliens!

Week 5: Investigating Non-Fiction Fact Books - Planets

Week 6: 'Wish upon a Star' Little Ashes Shining Stars!

Forest School

Dear all,

We have been learning about common garden birds at Forest school the past couple of weeks and I am hoping we can all join together and take part in the great bird watch organised by the RSPB. The children have enjoyed listening, identifying, naming and playing various hide and seek games, as well as making various bird feeders to take home and hang at Forest School.

If you would like to take part you can find some fabulous free printable resources on the RSPB website <https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/> I would encourage you to take part over the next couple of weeks and commit to 6x10 minute sessions bird watching with your child. Your child can record their findings on the tick list .

If you want to take part and are unable to print out a sheet, please let me know and I will send one home with your child. I hope you all have lots of fun taking part and I'm sure your children will give you lots of help in learning the names of the different birds.

I would love to get all your completed sheets back by Monday 8th Feb 2021 so I can send them in to the RSPB from Little Ashes.

Many thanks,
Becca

Term Dates

Spring Term

Open Tuesday 5th Jan 2021 at 9am

Close Friday 12th February 2021 at 3pm (for those staying for Forest School)

Open 22nd February 2021 at 9am

Close Friday 31st March 2021 at 3pm (for those staying for Forest School)

Please pencil these important dates into your diary ☺

If you have any questions, worries, concerns and/or ideas you would like to share with us please feel free to pop in and see me or any of the team. Alternatively, pop a message into our message box in the foyer. *Helen, Charlene, Nat, Jade, Lorna, Diana, Becca*