

Earlybirds Newsletter

September 2018



News from the Earlybirds Team

Welcome back to a new academic year and a warm welcome to all our new children and families. We hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer and has settled back into Earlybirds. Please don't forget to provide us with a spare change of clothes for your child's bag, for those "just in case" moments. Thank you for your help with this. Please also let us know if you have changed address or telephone number. Please speak to a member of staff to update your contact sheet.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Ailsa Duckworth to the team as our Administrator. Mrs Duckworth has significant administrative experience and will be an asset to the team. Please bear with us as we handover the administrative tasks. With this in mind, billing for the Autumn 1 half term will be sent shortly. We will continue to bill for hours in advance at the start of each half term. Any additional hours or changes will then be retrospectively adjusted as part of the following half term's bill.

We have a number of exciting events planned for the year in Earlybirds and are delighted to send out our annual dates and events booklet which provides parents with an overview of these. Please note that the dates for the spring and summer INSET dates that were previously given in our Summer newsletters were incorrect. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience. The correct dates are Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th February and Friday 21st June.

We are recruiting for an additional member of staff, initially for two mornings a week (Monday and Wednesday 8.30-12) with the opportunity to increase hours as our numbers increase over the year. If you have or know of anyone with a Level 3 qualification who is looking for a new role or additional hours in a second setting, please speak to Mrs Chambers or email us to request an application pack.

Staff Members

Lucy Chambers – Leader and Safeguarding Lead
Marina Moro – Deputy Leader and Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Anne Slade - SENCo and Pre School Assistant
Jane Waller - Pre School Assistant

Reminder

Please remember to close and bolt the gate that leads onto the main road.

Please do not park in the layby or on the zigzag lines at any time.

We are a NUT FREE pre-school.

Open morning

This year we will be holding two open mornings for prospective parents on Wednesday 10th October and Tuesday 30th October. If you know of anyone who has a child who is pre-school age, please ask them to call us and book a guided tour slot.

Funding

All 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours funding starting from the term after their third birthday. Headcount funding forms will be sent out over the coming week so please complete and return these asap. In addition to this, eligible 2 year olds are entitled to 15 hours funding and some 3 and 4 year olds will be eligible for 30 hours funding. As previously advised, any parents wishing to claim 30 hours funding in September will need to be in receipt of an eligibility code. Parents wishing to claim the 30 hours funding in January will need to apply for their code prior to the start of the spring term as they will not be able to claim retrospectively and will not be able to use their funding until the following term

Please visit <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-and-education-for-2-to-4-year-olds> to check eligibility and get your code.

Key Dates

Autumn Term 2018

- **Wednesday 5th Sept - Friday 21st Dec**

Spring Term 2019

- **Monday 7th Jan - Friday 5th April**

Summer Term 2019

- **Tuesday 23rd April - Tuesday 23rd July**

Staff training INSET dates (pre-school closed):

- **Monday 25th /Tuesday 26th Feb and Friday 21st June.**

Friday 21st September 6.30 – 8.30pm

- **FONS Family Race Night – Earlybirds parents welcome**

Week of 3rd October

- **Harvest - Harvest themed activities in setting.**

Wednesday 10th October

- **Open morning for prospective parents September 2019**

Tuesday 16th October

- **Forest Trip (weather permitting)**

Tuesday 16th October 6.30 – 7.30pm

- **Parent Information Evening**

Monday 22nd October – Friday 26th October HALF TERM