

News Letter Summer Term 2015



Welcome

The Preschool staff and committee would like to extend a warm welcome to our new children and parents who have just started with us while proffering a special welcome to all our existing pupils and parents; we look forward to working in partnership with you in the education of your child and hope that you will have a positive association with Little Johns Preschool.

This term

The summer term is a very busy time as we work with parents to prepare 13 of our older children for school in September. If there is a special area that you would like the staff to work on with your child to make them 'school ready' please discuss it with your child's Key Worker and we will ensure it is put in our weekly planning.

Helping At Home

Part of 'school readiness' is helping children become independent, when they commence school in September they will be expected to go to the toilet unsupervised, change for PE lessons with minimal help and manage to feed themselves using a knife and fork. These are all skills that they can practise at home over the next few months that will help with the transition from preschool to big school. If you would like further advice on getting your child 'school ready' pop into your chosen primary school and ask to speak with one of the Foundation class teachers.

Cultural Diversity

Here at Little Johns Preschool we like to celebrate our wide and diverse community; we welcome all parental input into the development of cultural understanding and diversity in the setting and so if there is something in your calendar that we may not know, please talk to us, we will research it and ensure it is included in our circle time.

Zheebz

Your children may have already told you about Zheebz (formally Cheeky Monkeys). They are an activity group that come into the Preschool every Thursday morning for approximately 45 minutes. They introduce a letter of the week in a fun way with various activities that require the children to use their imagination and physical skills while testing their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. The children enjoyed the trial sessions we held at the end of last term so much that we have decided to keep them for the summer term too.

End of Term

The staff are currently planning the end of term trip, the final details have yet to be confirmed but we are hoping to go on Wednesday 1st July. We will of course be looking for lots of parent volunteers to assist us. As usual we have booked to have Tempest Photography in during June to take photos of our leavers and the term will finish with a week full of lots of themed activities for the all of the children culminating in a big party on Thursday 9th July.

Parent Helpers

We are very lucky to have a parent/carer helper coming into our preschool every Tuesday and Thursday morning this term. Some of you may have met Linda Frimpomaa already; she is hoping to begin studying to become a teacher next year and so is volunteering with us to gain experience before starting college. If you too have some spare time and would be interested in helping, then please see Mellonie for more information.

Weather

As the weather will no doubt get warmer over the coming weeks could we kindly remind parents to clearly label all cardigans, jumpers etc so that when the children become too warm and remove them, we can reunite them with their owners at the end of the session. Also, we are extremely fortunate to have access to an outside play area at St John's Primary School which we visit every morning so as the weather becomes warmer the children will need sun screen applying prior to coming into preschool.

May we also remind parents to send a change of clothes as sometimes accidents happen when children are absorbed in their play, and the Preschool has a very limited supply of donated clothes?

Staffing

During the last term we were fortunate to have an apprentice working with us, Caitlin has now moved to another setting to further her experience of Early Years and we wish her every success. This term we welcome Heena Vaja who will be joining us every Monday as she studies Level 1 Childcare at Leicester College.

The Committee

We are a registered charity run by a small committee of dedicated parents, parents of former Preschool children and the setting manager. We welcome all new parents to the Committee, as parents of attending children you automatically become eligible to join the committee and help run the Preschool. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 6th May at 8.00pm. The Committee is chaired by Dr Tim Rattay if you would like to find out more about getting involved with our Preschool or wish to attend a committee meeting, please speak to Mellonie or email Tim at littlejohnscommittee@gmail.com

Finances

Little Johns Preschool is registered with Leicester City Council as a validated provider for 2, 3 and 4 year old NEG funded children. We offer the maximum 15 hours free funded places to children accessing this funding, as well as providing additional paid sessions to those parents wanting their children to access the provision privately. Money to run the Preschool is provided from the government funding and fees payable by parents. Obviously the Preschool must be financially viable but we do not run to make a profit, all additional monies are put back into the Preschool in the form of new resources to provide a quality provision that will engage and develop your child. We try to keep our fees at a minimum and ask that parents help us by ensuring that any fees due are paid on time.

Term dates

Just a quick reminder of the term dates

First half term: Monday 13 April – Thursday 21 May 2015 (Bank holiday Monday 4th May)

Second half term: Monday 1 June – Thursday 9 July 2015

Here's looking forward to a busy and rewarding summer term!

***The Staff and Committee of Little Johns Preschool
April 2015***