

PLEASE REMEMBER pick up time is **2.45pm** at the latest. We have to have left the hall by 3pm. Other users come into the hall after us and the staff have to collect their own children from school too.



Lots of children have the same clothes – please remember to label them.

Pam has a marker pen at the door if you have forgotten. Please ask.

Summer is here – please remember your child's sun cream and sun hat for sunny days.

Newsletter April /May 2021

Well Done

Thank you to all the parents and carers who are wearing masks for visits and pick up/drop off times. Please continue to wear your masks and maintain social distancing - the pre-school is very busy this term and so there are lots of people around. We want to all stay safe 😊

To all parents & carers,

Thank you for all your help and cooperation during this time whilst we are adhering to the Government guidance and trying to stay safe from the coronavirus.

Little Doves staff are doing twice weekly coronavirus testing to keep the children and families safe. I am glad to say a lot of us have had a first vaccine now also. A lot of the staff have gone above and beyond with their effort and time so that we can stay open and I am so very grateful to them. I am also very grateful to the trustees who support us from behind the scenes and to Rev Julie who is praying for us all regularly.

Please continue to be mindful the more your child mixes the more the opportunity of cross infection risking all the families and staff at Little Doves.

I am really looking forward to better times when we can all enjoy being at Little Doves as we should. Summer is on its way so we can spend more time outdoors which is great.

God Bless & keep safe, Pam

Illnesses and Covid19

Please tell us if you or your family are showing any Covid19 signs and need to isolate.

I am aware that the rates are very much improved, however the virus is still in the community and there may be times when we will have to close at short notice due to a positive test result. This is only done when we are instructed to do so by Public Health England. Please be aware that this is a possibility in all pre-schools and schools and try to have a Plan B for childcare if you are at work. Remember we could all have to isolate if there is a positive result if we are told to do so. We also have many staff with children at school and if we have a staff shortage due to families needing to isolate from those schools, this could also lead to us having to close the pre-school as we will have insufficient staff to open. Of course, we hope this will not happen but we have already heard of settings where this has occurred. We thank you for your co-operation and understanding in advance.

Transition to School for July leavers

Please make sure you keep us up to date with any new information/updates with your child's place at school as Pam needs to liaise with the teachers for the transition. We have 27 children leaving!

If anyone would like to discuss your child's development or any other issues, please speak to Pam – short visits with your child's key person are allowed.

Healthy Lunch boxes please – only one sweet treat.

NO peanut butter as we have children with nut allergies



PLIMSOLS

Please can you bring your child into pre-school WEARING their 'preschool' shoes.

The children's shoes are sprayed with antibacterial solution on arrival.

Temperatures are recorded as necessary.

Please remember we are closed on Thursday 6th May as the hall is a polling station. Please make alternative childcare arrangements. See Pam for swaps.

Remember to praise and celebrate the successes of your child. Use our WOW certificates.

Summer Trip

We would like to organise something for after June 21st. More details to follow.

30 hour Extended Funding Parents

Please apply **NOW** if you want to claim from September 2021. Registration cannot be back dated.

Facebook - remember to log in to our closed Facebook page to see photos of what the children have been doing. If you are not a member, please send a friend request to "Friends of Little Doves".

Little Urchins Photographs

Thursday 13th May 9.15am until 12.30pm

Theme: **Black & white/vintage/sepia or fairies & pirates (tbc)**

(costumes are provided but you can bring your own). Covid guidelines will be followed. All are welcome – if it is not your child's usual day and you are planning to come, please let Pam know.

TERM DATES

Half term: 31st May to 4th June

Last day of term: Thursday 16th July (party)

Staff tidy up day: Friday 17th July

Autumn term starts: Wed 1st Sept (tbc)

Please pay any outstanding invoices as soon as possible.

SNACK TIME

Little Doves is supplying snack in the morning. **Please still bring in a named drink bottle.** This is an optional extra and we will ask for a contribution of £1 per day towards the cost of this. The children are really enjoying this sociable time.

Please continue to bring in a named drink and lunchbox if your child is staying for lunch.

Sports day

Pam is hoping this will be possible and is looking into options.

September 2021 sessions

Please make sure that Pam knows any changes to your child's hours for September especially if your child is newly funded. We give priority to our existing children before allocating the remaining spaces to the new children starting.

Spaces for children in September – recommend us to family & friends.

A big 'Thank you'

to everyone who supported us in our Easter Egg Hunt, we raised around £400!

Leavers Service & Picnic

Wednesday 14th July 12.15pm in St Pauls Church. More details to follow.

Please note - Wednesday 14th July may be a WONKY WEDNESDAY

Shining Stars Football is back!

This is taking place outside, in smaller groups and the children are loving it. It provides the children with extra learning opportunities creating valuable developmental experiences. It is well worth your voluntary contributions!

Very Important

You MUST let us know if anyone different is picking up your child. Please fill in the correct Collection form and tell whoever is on the door who will put it in the Sign-in register. Also remember to tell the person collecting the password.

Please remember whoever picks up your child **MUST** be in your child's 'own bubble'

Congratulations to Emma Lambri who has passed her Level 3 accredited qualification for Special Needs. This is an Essex CC recommendation. Well done, Emma! 🎉

Welcome back to Pippa Skerry who has just completed her degree in education and will be joining our team to help in the summer term as in previous years.

We are very sad to say farewell to Sally Manby who has been helping us at Little Doves for the last couple of years. Please visit us and stay in touch.

Welcome to Sam Read who has joined our team as a Level 3 educator. I hope you settle in quickly and love it at Little Doves. Sam will be an additional keyperson.

We would like to thank everyone for your patience and continued support with all the changes this term. With love & prayers, Pam & the Little Doves team