



NEWSLETTER

September 2024

Welcome everyone to the start of a new school year!! We hope you have all had an amazing summer of fun, whether away or just enjoying being at home. As I write this the raining is falling and looking outside the first signs of Autumn are definitely starting to show!! We now enter the staff at Little Explorers favourite time of year.... the "ber months"!!! Autumn term is always full of festivals and celebrations along with endless activity and craft ideas. We can't wait!

We ended the school year looking at the themes "Around the world" where we looked at different cultures and tried new foods for cooking and snack. We then had 3 weeks of our amazing "Music and Arts Festival". I am confident to say that each and every child absolutely loved each and every activity and visitor that happened or visited over the festival. We had such a range of workshops including dance, yoga, story time sessions where the stories were brought to life through puppets, music and acting! We ended the festival with a workshop using recycled drums which I'm pretty sure would have been heard throughout the village!! Our piece of art that the children created with our own artist Jasime, hangs proudly in our entrance hall for all to see. We ended the term with the themes "Getting ready for school" and "Camping". We held our annual Sports day and due to the fact, we now have such an amazing outside space, we were able to hold it here at preschool which was fantastic (I do think that maybe the track wasn't quite long enough for the competitiveness of the parents race though!).

We sadly said goodbye to our school leavers, Georgie, Meredith, Bleu, Oliver, Ivy, Ronnie, Wynter-Lily, Jaxon, Tommy and Mason and wished them a fond farewell in a graduation ceremony which brought tears to us all! It was so lovely to have family celebrate the children's time here and stay for a farewell picnic and social. We wish each and every one of them all the luck in the world on their next school chapter.

This term we welcome Grace, Alexander, Lacie and Esme. We are really looking forward to welcoming you to the Little Explorers Family and know you will love it!

This half term we will be looking at "Harvest/On the Farm", "All about me/Keeping healthy", "Autumn" and "Halloween". We will be arranging a Storytime and Stay and Play Session for you to join us, if free, during the half term and will let you know dates as soon as we have them.

And finally, as you are all aware, we had our Ofsted inspection at the end of term and are happy to announce that we have kept our "Good" rating. At our feedback meeting with the inspector, she had some lovely and positive things to say about the setting, staff and children and loved her time here with us. She has written a lovely report that we are all really very proud of. Comments such as "Children are warmly welcomed by the attentive staff as they enter this nurturing pre-school", "Staff nurture a culture of positive behaviour", and "Staff recognise the importance of providing children with quality experiences that extend and enrich their knowledge and vocabulary" show that the inspector picked up on all that we strive to do each day and the overall culture of our setting shone through. The full report can be found on the Ofsted website <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50254908>

Diary Dates

Start of term: Wednesday 4th September

End of half term: Friday 25th October

Start of second half of term: Monday 4th November

End of term: Friday 20th December

Childcare
Choices

Supporting families
with childcare costs

childcarechoices.gov.uk



HM Government

If you would like to find out about further help and support the Parenting Team offer please email

Parenting_team@shropshire.gov.uk

or call us on 01743 250950

All our services are free of charge to Shropshire Council residents.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



SOLIHULL APPROACH

PARENTING HELP AND SUPPORT LINE

available

Monday to Thursday from 9.30am to 4.30pm

and

Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm

You can contact the Parenting Help and Support Line by calling

01743 250950

Parenthood can be extremely rewarding and enjoyable. It can also be demanding, frustrating and exhausting. The Parenting Team is here to help and support parents and carers to raise healthy, well-rounded children in a loving and stable environment.

Do you have any questions around your child's development and parenting?

Why not call our Parenting Help and Support Line where one of our trained Parenting Practitioners will be ready to listen.

(Please note the Parenting Help and Support Line will not operate on Bank Holidays)

If you have concerns about a child's safety or well-being, please call

First Point of Contact 0345 678 9021

bedtime stories

THE WHAT'S, WHY'S, & HOW'S FOR PARENTS

What

Bedtime stories have become a thing of the past in many homes. Tucking your child in bed at night and spending 20 minutes reading with him or her can have lifelong effects on your child—emotionally and academically.



Why

- Bond with your child
- Establish a love for reading
- Improve your child's vocabulary
- Calm and soothe your child to prepare them for sleep
- Make lifelong memories
- Expose your child to a variety of books
- Show your child that reading is important

how

- Set aside 20 minutes each night to read to and with your child
- Read old favorites and new finds from the library
- Make it fun— read in the dark with a flashlight
- Take turns— you read some pages, and let your child read some pages
- Read both picture books and chapter books



TUTUSTREEDBLOG.COM - Ashley Reed

Too Much Tech?

Watch for these signs



Complaints about being bored without screens



Problems with sleep, school, or face-to-face interaction



Harsh resistance to screen time limits

Are you seeing these signs?

It's time to talk about tech.