

**Autumn Term 2019 Newsletter**

Dear Little Owls Parents and Carers,

We very much hope you have had a super summer and we are all really looking forward to seeing all of you and your children to hear about what they have all been up to over the holidays. If your child has anything they would like to bring in to show us from their holidays, please encourage them to do this! You can also put posts on Tapestry so we can support their conversation. New parents, you will soon receive an email to activate your child’s Tapestry account.

**Welcome!**

We will be welcoming 9 new children to Little Owls this September so we are looking forward to getting to know them and their families. Welcome to the Little Owls community!

**First day back**

The first day back for the children will be **Wednesday 4th September**. This half term runs until **Thursday 17th October** when there is a week off for half term. Our dates are on our website: [www.haslingfieldlittleowls.org.uk/times-terms/](http://www.haslingfieldlittleowls.org.uk/times-terms/). We follow the same term dates as Haslingfield Primary school.

**Reminders to bring…**

Please remember each day your child needs:

Wellie boots (the outside area is soil, therefore mud and puddles are enjoyed for the majority of the year)

Waterproof trousers and coat (the children go out every session and, this being England, we find these essential!)

Named water bottle

Named spare clothes

A plastic bag to put wet items in

Nappies and wipes (if required)

Named packed lunch (if staying)

As we are a pack-away setting everything needs to be taken home each day. Also, it is SO helpful if you can name all your children’s clothes (even socks and underwear) as it saves us so much time trying to reunite them. A top tip is to have a selection of clothes that is just for Little Owls. Also, please remember to send your child in appropriate clothing/footwear that you don’t mind them getting dirty!

**Staffing**

Below outlines our staffing structure for this half term:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DAY  | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  |
| MORNING  | Abby Kayleigh Sobia Natalie Hayley  | Abby Kayleigh Sobia Natalie Hayley  | Kayleigh Sobia Natalie Hayley  | Abby Sobia\* Hayley  |
| AFTERNOON  | Kayleigh Natalie Hayley  | Kayleigh Natalie Hayley  |   |   |

\*Kayleigh will be swapping with Sobia after half term

You will be receiving an email soon if your child’s key person has changed. We will also be sending out the rota for parent/carer consultations as soon as possible.

**Interests**

We know how quickly children’s interests change and it is so crucial we keep up to date with this as it is a great way to plan for children’s next steps. Please could you let us know through a Tapestry post what your child’s current interests are, as no doubt lots have changed over the summer, and if anything new comes up in the future please add further posts. Thank you!

**Families**

We would like to do a display of photos of children’s families as this is a great talking point for them, a way to understand differences and similarities and also it creates a more homely atmosphere for them. Please could you send in or email to Julie a photo/s of your child’s family/families.

**Registration Rocks!**

Each child will have a special Registration Rock with their name on to find on the table and put in the basket. This helps them familiarise themselves with the name and also creates a sense of belonging to Little Owls.

**Rotas**

We are very grateful to our parents and carers for helping us through our rotas! It really takes the time pressure of us and gives us more time to focus on the children.

Fence:The temporary fence needs putting up and taking down several times a week. Julie will be putting together a rota for this based on what days your child attends. Please let her know if you are *not*able to do this.

Fruit snack (rota below): When it is your week to bring fruit for snack please bring in your allocated fruit on the first day your child is at Little Owls and these go on the snack table by the middle room door. Our children love when it is their fruit day and often tell us about how they helped to count them out or go to buy them! It is a really lovely way of showing children how they contribute to our Little Owls Community. Below is the fruit rota for the next half term. Please, please let us know if you are not able to contribute fruit; it is really important we know beforehand so we can make sure we have enough fruit for the children

Washing (rota below): When it is your washing week there is a yellow bag that has the week’s washing (tea towels, cloths, etc). It should be hung on your child’s peg on your child’s rota day. If it is not it would be really helpful to please ask us! Wash and dry the contents and return in the bag as soon as you can...but no great rush as we have lots more. The children really love helping with doing this important job at home!

Volunteering:We have recently started an intergenerational project to encourage cross generational links within the village which you may have read about in the Church and Village magazine. We have asked people of all ages to come in regularly to play and socialise with the children. We also highly encourage parents and carers to do this; it tends to be once every 3 weeks. Research shows that strong links between a child’s home and Preschool is one of the biggest contributing factors to children’s progress. Please talk to one of us if you would be able to do this.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week beginning**  | **Fruit**  | **Beginning (Mon)**  | **Middle (Wed/Thu)**  | **Washing Bag**  |
| (Wed) 4th Sep  | 8 Bananas each 8 Apples each  8 Pears each 8 Satsumas each  | - - - -  | Freddie Jameson Jack Iris  | Wilfred (Thu)  |
| 9th Sep  | 8 Bananas each 8 Apples each  8 Pears each 8 Satsumas each  | Clara David Jessica S Jessica G  | Noah Jessie L Joey Maisie  | David and Jessica (Wed)  |
| 16th Sep  | 8 Bananas each 8 Apples each  8 Pears each 8 Satsumas each  | Hattie Tom (Mon) Elliot Sen  | Emily Co Alex Emily B William  | Hattie and Tom (Thu)  |
| 23rd Sep  | 8 Bananas each 8 Apples each  8 Pears each 8 Satsumas each  | Joey Freddie Jameson Wilfred  | Jack Jessie L Iris Clara  | Emily Co (Wed)  |
| 30th Sep  | 8 Bananas each 8 Apples each  8 Pears each 8 Satsumas each  | David Jessica S Emily Ch James (Mon)  | Edmund Aryan Hattie Sen  | Iris (Wed)  |
| 7th Oct  | 8 Bananas each 8 Apples each  8 Pears each 8 Satsumas each  | Elliot Joey Freddie Jameson  | Alex Maisie Noah William  | Jack (Wed)  |
| 14th Oct  | 8 Bananas each 8 Apples each  8 Pears each 8 Satsumas each  | Jack Iris Hattie Wilfred  | Jessie L Clara David  Jessica S  | Jessie L (Wed)  |
| HALF TERM  |

**Parents and Carers Questionnaire**

We were so pleased with how many families were able to complete the questionnaire at the end of the summer. The committee and staff will be analysing this and using it to inform our Action Plan for the coming year. We will feed this back to you as soon as possible.

**Feedback**

We highly value your feedback on what you feel we are doing well and what you think we could improve at Little Owls. We strongly encourage you to talk to us or write down anything you would like to share with us and, if you wish this to be anonymous, put this in an envelope and post it through the church’s main door letter box, addressed to ‘Abby Maddison-Little Owls Manager.’

**Supporting Parents at Home**

As Practitioners one of our most important roles is to support you as parents and your child at home. If there is anything you would like support with, such as fussy eating, toilet training, behaviour, etc, please come and speak us your child’s key person. You may want to raise a general question anonymously which you can do in the same way as giving feedback, outlined above. We can then give advice through our weekly newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

Best wishes from

Abby, Kayleigh, Sobia, Hayley, Natalie and Julie

The Little Owls Team

**07704 908109**