



Ladybirds Newsletter  
Term 2 Week 1 w/c 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Welcome Back

**Our topic... 'The Nativity'**

Welcome back, hope you all had a lovely half term. Our topic this term will be 'The Nativity', as the weeks progress the children will all have a chance to make the different characters and these will be displayed on our topic wall. This week the children will be focusing on bonfire night, they will be making 3D and 2D fireworks pictures using various craft materials. They will also be making their Christmas folders so they can bring all of their amazing artwork home at the end of term.

**New Starters**

We would like to welcome Max to Ladybirds, we hope you settle quickly and soon feel part of the Ladybirds family.

**Photographer Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 10am.**

We have a photographer in Ladybirds on the 7<sup>th</sup> November. He will be arriving ready to start photographs at 10am. If you would like your child's picture taken and it is not their normal day there is a sign up sheet on the main Pre-school door.

**Baby Wipes.**

If your child is still in nappies or toilet training please could you provide a pack of baby wipes for them so if we need to change them or they have an accident we can clean them properly to prevent any soreness occurring. Many Thanks

**Lunch Boxes**

Could we kindly ask you to not include any nuts or nut products including peanut butter in your child's lunchboxes, could we also ask that any small fruit or vegetables are cut up e.g grapes, tomatoes etc. Many Thanks

**Nursery Rhyme Packs**

To encourage language development and a love of books we have been sending out our nursery rhyme packs. Each pack focuses on a different nursery rhyme and consists of a book and a different activity for you to share with your child. We hope you enjoy these activities with your child and look forward to hearing your feedback.

Could I also remind parents that just inside the main door of the Pre-school we have our borrowing library, children are welcome to borrow a book to share with their families at home and then return it when they are finished.

**Snack Donations**

Thank you to everyone who has donated snack items to us so far this term. Could we please ask that any cereal bars or fruit bars do not contain any nuts, this includes being made in factories which produce nut products. Thank you and thank you for your ongoing support.

**St Thomas's Christmas tree festival**

This year the festival runs from 4<sup>th</sup> December, our theme is 'Shining Stars' and the children will all be making a star to display on our tree. We will be visiting St Thomas's church to look at the trees on the morning of 6<sup>th</sup> December to return by 12.15pm. All children are welcome to come, if it is not your child's normal session then we will have to ask that they have an adult to accompany them due to our ratio's. We have booked a coach for the journey down and back and there will be plenty of space for everyone to travel with the Pre-school. There will be no charge for this trip.

**Christmas Morning and Nativity Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 10am-12pm St Francis Church**

As in previous years we will be holding our nativity and fundraising morning in St Francis Church. The children will all be given a part in the nativity in the coming weeks, all parent/carers/grandparents etc are welcome to attend. On the day the nativity will start the morning and then there will be a chance for the children to do a craft and play games which we will have set out at a small cost (between 10 & 20p). Refreshments will be available and we will have a cake stall where you can purchase some yummy treats, (hopefully with cakes supplied by parents ☺). We will also hold our famous Ladybirds raffle, tickets for this will be sent home with the children over the next couple of weeks. For now there will be a raffle donation basket in the foyer if you feel you can donate a prize however small we would be very grateful, all the funds raised will be put back into buying resources for the pre-school. We will also be looking for a willing volunteer to fit our Santa suit as all the children will have a visit and present from the big man ;-), and an avid face painter as this is always a popular stall. If you feel you can help on the morning or you have any ideas please feel free to come and speak to me in the office. Many Thanks

**Listening skills Leaflet (fire and lockdown procedure)**

We have been practicing our different listening skills with the children, so they know which sound is used to stop and listen, also the different signals we use in the event of a fire or if we need to complete a lockdown procedure. All the information that we are

using will be sent home to yourselves via a 'Listening Skills' leaflet over the next couple of weeks, so that you and your child both know the procedures which we have in place within the Preschool. Many thanks

### **Tax Free Childcare**

Ladybirds is now signed up to Tax free Childcare. This is a digital service which Gov.uk are providing to help parents pay for childcare. If you qualify for every £8 a parent pays into their childcare service account, they will pay in £2. This can then be used to pay the childcare provider. For more information you can visit Gov.uk.

### **Easy Fundraising:**

If you have time and shop online please feel free to sign up to our Ladybirds easy fundraising page to help raise money for Ladybirds, simply shop with any of over 3,300 online retailers including Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, and when you make a purchase, the retailer will send us a free donation at no extra cost to you. Just follow our link to sign up and start raising funds for Ladybirds, <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ladybirdssalisbury>

### **Primary School Places**

If your child will be starting Primary School in September 2019, please be aware that the deadline for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019. You can apply online at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk) or if you would prefer a paper application they can also be downloaded from the website [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk). Alternatively you can ring customer services at Wiltshire Council on 01225 713010.

### **Named Items**

Please make sure all of your child's items which they bring to Pre-school are named, e.g lunchboxes, drinks bottles etc. This just helps to stop any confusion. Many Thanks

### **Wellies**

Please could you make sure that your child has a named pair of wellies in the pre-school, this means that they can still go out to play when it's wet. Many Thanks

### **Snack Donations**

There is a snack donation bowl in our foyer, if you feel that you can donate either some fruit, raisins, breadsticks etc occasionally we will be most grateful.

### **Wow moments:**

On the notice board in the foyer there is a 'WOW' moments section if your child does anything at home no matter how small (as it's normally massive to them 😊) we would love to share their achievements with them in Ladybirds at circle time, please feel free to fill in one of our slips and pop it on the board and we will make sure we share it with them.

Please remember that our door is always open and if you have any issues or concerns, we are always happy to speak with you. Thank You, From the Ladybirds team

Please take 5 minutes to read our policy of the week, we would encourage any feedback you have.

## **5.1 Staffing**

### **Policy statement**

We provide a staffing ratio in line with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure that children have sufficient individual attention and to guarantee care and education of a high quality. Our staff are appropriately qualified and we carry out checks for criminal and other records through the Criminal Records Bureau in accordance with statutory requirements.

### **Procedures**

To meet this aim we use the following ratios of adult to children:

- Children under two years of age: 1 adult : 3 children
  - At least one member of staff holds a full and relevant level 3 qualification and is suitably experienced in working with children under two;

- At least half of all other staff hold a full and relevant level 2 qualification;
- At least half of all staff have received training that specifically addresses the care of babies; and
- Where there is an under two-year-old's room, the member of staff in charge of that room has suitable experience of working with under twos.
- Children aged two years: 1 adult : 4 children:
  - At least one member of staff holds a full and relevant level 3 qualification; and
  - At least half of all other staff hold a full and relevant level 2 qualification.
- Children aged three years and over: 1 adult : 8 children:
  - At least one member of staff holds a full and relevant level 3 qualification: and
  - At least half of all other staff hold a full and relevant level 2 qualification.
- A minimum of two staff/adults are on duty at any one time.
- Each child is assigned a key person to help the child become familiar with the setting from the outset and to ensure that each child has a named member of staff with whom to form a relationship. The key person plans with parents for the child's well-being in the setting. The key person meets regularly with the family for discussion and consultation on their child's progress and offers support in guiding their development at home.
- We hold regular staff meetings to undertake curriculum planning and to discuss children's progress, their achievements and any difficulties that may arise from time to time.

**Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications**

- Employee Handbook (2012)
- Recruiting and Managing Employees (2011)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of

Held on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Date to be reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Signed on behalf of the management committee

Name of signatory \_\_\_\_\_

Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner) \_\_\_\_\_