



Ladybirds Newsletter  
Term 4 Week 5 w/c19th March 2018

**Our topic... 'Minibeasts':**

It's hard to believe that today is the first day of spring and we're looking out at snow!. Hope you all enjoyed the snow over the weekend. Spring will start soon I'm sure, we are continuing with our topic this week. The children will be using a variety of craft resources to make wriggly worms to bring home and for our wall display. The children will also be making some lovely Easter cards hopefully this may bring some spring weather!

The letter of the week is '**W**', if any children would like to bring something in to show at circle time.

**Easter Fun Morning Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 10am-12pm:**

All children are most welcome to come to the Easter morning, if it's not your child's normal day but you would like them to attend then they can be dropped off at Ladybirds at 9.15am with their Easter Bonnets and staff will take them across to the church, they can then be taken home with you once the morning has finished. The morning will start with the Easter Bonnet parade and a small Easter egg hunt for the children, followed by craft activities and other stalls that the children can take part in. All stalls will be cost between 10 and 20p. We will also be holding a raffle, there is a donation box in the foyer we are most grateful for any donations, raffle tickets will be sent home with your child soon and will also be available to buy on the day. Lastly we will have a cake stall, if any parents would like to donate any cakes for this could we please ask you to bring them in either the day before or on the morning. Many Thanks for all your help!

**Helpers request:**

We currently need volunteers to run two of our stalls at the Easter Morning, unfortunately we are struggling to find a keen face painter ;-), this is always one of the most popular stalls. Also we are hoping to have a plant stall again where the children can plant their own pansy to take home, if anyone has green fingers and would be willing to spare half an hour of their time we would be most grateful. If anyone would like to volunteer let Avril know in the office, many many thanks.

**Sports Relief:**

This year to raise money for Sports Relief Ladybirds we will be holding a Go Jettors Go-Go disco, this will be held on the afternoon of Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March as this is our busiest afternoon session. All children who attend on this day are welcome to come dressed in their finest party clothes and staff will be hosting the disco, parents do not need to attend. If this is not a session your child attends there will be other activities we will be doing with the children throughout the week so that all the children feel involved and have taken part in an activity. A suggested donation for the disco is £1 but parents are welcome to give however much they would like, all the money raised will go to sports relief.

**Toy and Clothes Donation:**

We are currently trying to expand our sensory toys at Ladybirds, if anyone has any toys which have flashing lights or make sounds which they no longer use and are willing to donate, we would be most grateful. We are also running very low of spare pants, socks and boys trousers if you have any spare which you may be giving to charity we would happily take them from you. Many Thanks

**Nappy Changing:**

If your child currently wears nappies at Ladybirds, could we please request that there is a packet of baby wipes in your child's bag please for when we change them. Many thanks

**Job Vacancy:**

We are currently advertising for a new Pre-school Assistant. 26hrs per week on a rota basis, all applicants must be level 3 qualified. If you know of anybody who would be interested then please either pass our phone number or e-mail over. Alternatively you or they can come and pick an application form up from Avril in the office.

**Named Items:**

Could you please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly named when coming into Pre-school, including any bags and backpacks. This will ensure that no confusion is made at home time. Also could all children have a spare pair of named wellies in Pre-school. Many Thanks

**Snack time:**

We welcome any healthy snack donations you are able to give – eg. fruit, breadsticks, raisins, are all extremely helpful. There is a bowl in our foyer for any donations.

#### **Policy Of The Week:**

Please could you spare 5 minutes to review our policy of the week, we encourage any feedback you may have. Many Thanks

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.

## **10.5 Parental involvement**

### **Policy statement**

We believe that children benefit most from early years education and care when parents and settings work together in partnership.

Our aim is to support parents as their children's first and most important educators by involving them in their children's education and in the full life of the setting. We also aim to support parents in their own continuing education and personal development.

Some parents are less well represented in early years settings; these include working parents, parents who live apart from their children, but who still play a part in their lives, as well as working parents. In carrying out the following procedures, we will ensure all parents are included.

When we refer to 'parents', this means both mothers and fathers, including natural parents, foster or adoptive parents, step-parents and same sex parents. It also includes parents who do not live with their children, but maintain contact with them and have a parental role.

The Children Act (1989) defines *parental responsibility* as '*all the rights, duties, powers and responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his property.* (For a full explanation of who has parental responsibility, refer to the Pre-school Learning Alliance publication *Safeguarding Children.*)

### **Procedures**

- We have a means to ensure all parents are included – that may mean we have different strategies for involving fathers or parents who work or live apart from their children.
- We consult with all parents to find out what works best for them.
- We ensure ongoing dialogue with parents to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children and to support their families.

- We inform all parents about how the setting is run and its policies, through access to written information and through regular informal communication. We check to ensure parents understand the information that is given to them.
- We encourage and support parents to play an active part in the governance and management of the setting.
- We inform all parents on a regular basis about their children's progress.
- We involve parents in the shared record keeping about their children - either formally or informally - and ensure parents have access to their children's written developmental records and Learning Journeys.
- We provide opportunities for parents to contribute their own skills, knowledge and interests to the activities of the setting.
- We inform parents about relevant conferences, workshops and training.
- We consult with parents about the times of meetings to avoid excluding anyone.
- We provide information about opportunities to be involved in the setting in ways that are accessible to parents with basic skills needs, or those for whom English is an additional language.
- We hold meetings in venues that are accessible and appropriate for all.
- We welcome the contributions of parents, in whatever form these may take.
- We inform all parents of the systems for registering queries, complaints or suggestions and check to ensure these are understood. All parents have access to our written complaints procedure.
- We provide opportunities for parents to learn about the curriculum offered in the setting and about young children's learning, in the setting and at home.

In compliance with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements, the following documentation is in place:

- Admissions Policy.
- Complaints procedure.
- Record of complaints.
- Developmental records of children.

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

- Complaint Investigation Record (2012)
- Engaging Mothers & Fathers (2010)
- Safeguarding Children (2010)
- Looking at Learning Together (2005)
- First and Foremost series (2008)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	_____	name of setting
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)

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