



July/August Newsletter 2021

End of the school year

As we are now approaching the end of the school year we would like to take a moment to reflect on the last year we have had. We have had another exceptionally hard year with the coronavirus pandemic taking hold again causing a couple more lockdowns and of course we are still not completely out of the woods with the Delta variant. The children have been in and out of preschool, some have had to have Covid tests themselves, they have continued to see adults in masks and have again missed out on some lovely end of term celebrations such as the teddy bears picnic and trips. However, through all of the down-sides and uncertainty the children have shown that they are so very resilient and have been smiling throughout bringing light into what has been the darkest of the times. Although this year has indeed been tough and has led us to adapt practice at the setting (especially when welcoming new children), we have managed to do it and have had one of the busiest summer terms yet.

We will be sad to see the children who are moving up to school leave us, however they are all ready and we are excited to watch them grow in to the amazing young people we already see. As a team we look forward to seeing them all on their first day of school in their school uniforms and we know that they will be greatly cared for in Rainbow Class with Mrs Hedley and Mrs Cox. To these children and families, we say Good Luck and we wish you all the very best in everything you do.

We as a team look forward to welcoming the remaining children back in September especially those who will not be doing holiday club along with some new starters. In September we are pleased to say that we are expecting our busiest September for many years and we are also implementing the new Early Years Foundation Stage framework which will mean that the children's observations will look slightly different.

We look forward to the year ahead and would like to say a massive thank you to you all for your constant support of the setting, us as a team and for most importantly choosing us to look after your most precious gift this being all of your amazing children. We hope you all have an amazing summer holiday.

Labelling



Please label your children's clothes, coats and spare clothes they bring to the setting, we now have lots of children and it can be difficult to identify children's belongings.



Open Door Policy



Please be reminded that although we are not currently having parents in the setting we still have an 'open door' policy. This means that if you would like to speak to your child's keyperson, a member of the senior leadership team or Harriet please do not hesitate to get in to contact with us. We are all contactable through email, phone calls and virtual meetings so please get in contact if you would like to speak to our staff.

Warm weather

Please ensure you apply sun cream to your child before they come to the setting as per our policy. We will then reapply if needed in the afternoon. Also ensure your children come in with a sunhat to ensure they are protected.





Sickness

Please note that we are unable to care for children who are unwell due to our duty of care in safeguarding all children and staff.

With Covid cases again on the rise, we thought this would be the ideal opportunity to remind you all of the government guidance should your child develop symptoms. Please see below the extract from the government website:

If you suspect your child has coronavirus do not send your child to their nursery, childminder, school, college or to an entry test for a selective school if:

- they are showing one or more coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- someone in their household is showing symptoms
- someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble has symptoms and they have been in close contact with them since the symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started
- they or someone in their household or support or childcare bubble has tested positive for COVID-19
- they are required to quarantine having recently visited a red list travel ban country

NHS

Book a PCR test if you or your child develop symptoms. Inform your nursery, childminder, school or college of the results.

Positive PCR test results

If the test is positive, follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection, and engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.

If your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and is asked to self-isolate, you do not need to self-isolate unless your child develops symptoms.

This also applies to other members of your household (including any other children in the same school or college).

If your child has been a close contact of someone who has tested positive, and then develops symptoms but has a negative test result, they will still need to self-isolate for the full 10 days from the day after contact with the person who tested positive.

Out Sick

Dates for your diary

Last day of term

Our last day of summer term will be the 23rd July 2021

September return

We will be returning for autumn term on Thursday 2nd September 2021

Development Days

We will be closed on the Tuesday 31st August 2021 and on Wednesday 1st September 2021 we will be having a staff development day so will be closed for children on these two dates.





Some thank you's for July/August

We have had some lovely people and businesses that have supported us through May/June collecting/removing resources and donating some lovely items to the preschool.

Thank you to all that have donated raffle prizes and all those who have brought tickets

Mike (Jaimee's Dad) for a mud kitchen

Lyn (Jaimee's Mum) for doing some more painting for us.

Tara (Leeanne's Mum) for some super hero costumes

Carly for some baskets, pictures and cushion.

Juliet for paint

Thank you all so very much for the support.

Raffle

The Little Explorers raffle is being drawn tomorrow and we will let people know by phone/email or in person when they collect their children if they have won a prize. We have some amazing prizes including;

- Light up scooter
- Blackgang chine tickets for a family of four
- 2 night stay at New Close Farm holiday cottage
- £20 Beauty Avenue voucher
- Champagne
- Wine
- Chocolate
- Wellbeing set
- Books
- The game of life
- £30 food and drink voucher for The Horse and Groom or The Griffin
- And so much more



Staff All About Me

Name: Jenny Clarke

Job Role: Childcare Practitioner

Jenny joined Little Explorers in 2013 after being a Nanny for a few years before hand. After finishing going to college to complete her Level 3 Childhood Studies Jenny worked as a Nanny for some of the children who attended the setting which is how she first met the team. Jenny was originally employed for cover however she is now employed full time and works during term time as well as some days in the holidays.

Recent courses completed: Child protection, Safeguarding, paediatric first aid, online safety, FGM, mental wellbeing, equality and diversity, administering medicines, fire safety, prevent, adverse childhood experiences, speech and language support and infection control.