

Little Acorns Newsletter – Spring Term March 2011

Hello and welcome to the Little Acorns Newsletter. This is a free resource to bring you the latest news and views from the Committee as well as updates on planned activities over the coming months. We hope you can spend a few minutes reading the information on the following pages, and assist where possible in ensuring the on-going success of Little Acorns.

Red Nose Day – During the week commencing 14th March the children will be supporting Red Nose Day by covering activities linked to the famous Gruffalo stories by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. More information can be found on the Little Acorns blog www.littleacorns-twyford.co.uk/blog/.

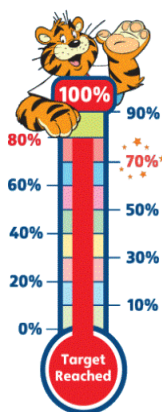
The next Parents evening is due to take place on 6th April 2011. Letters are due to go out shortly inviting you to an appointment with your child's key person.

Easter Bonnet/Hat Competition – The Easter Bonnet/Hat Competition is due to take place during the last week (w/c 4th April 2011) of the Spring Half term. The children are invited to make a hat and bring it in during this week to take part in an Easter Parade. Entry is £2, all participants will receive a small gift and the winners will be awarded Easter Eggs.

Easter Holidays – The Spring Term ends on Friday 8th April at 12.15pm for the Easter Holidays. Little Acorns will reopen on Tuesday 26th April for the start of the Summer Term. Take a look at Page 2 of this Newsletter for some ideas of things to do during the holidays.



We are now collecting Sainsbury's and Tesco vouchers, which are due to be exchanged for resources in June 2011. If enough vouchers are received we will be eligible for some new musical instruments from Tesco. Please place your vouchers in the relevant collection box at Little Acorns.



Haven Fun and Fitness - We have reached our 70% target, so a huge thank you to everyone who has registered their support so far. The children are now set to receive a fabulous set of sports equipment to use.

To receive a **bonus prize** we now need to get to 100% take up. If you haven't done so already please register at www.havenfunfitness.com/school.asp?id=3262

Cake Sale - Thank you also to all those who supported last half terms Cake Sale. We made just over £180. Proceeds have been used to purchase a small sized table and chairs for the younger children who will be joining the Pre-school in September.

Watch out for details of the next Cake Sale due to take place at the end of May.

A Photographer is booked for 24th and 29th March, if anyone would like photographs of their child for Easter. Commission is going to the Pre-school; please see the poster at Little Acorns to sign up.

Have you heard about Nestlé's free books for schools? Please check your cereal boxes for the tokens as we are now collecting. Tokens are redeemed annually by the 31st March, so with your support some new books will be benefitting all the children during the Summer Term. Please place your tokens in the collection box.

Do you have anything you would like to sell, and, donate the proceeds to Little Acorns? If so, you are welcome to advertise the details in the next edition of this Newsletter. Please contact Rachel (email: manager.littleacorns@weyfs.org.uk) for more details.

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May Fayre – Little Acorns May Fayre is due to take place on Saturday 14th May 2011 from 2pm – 4pm. This is always a popular event with stalls, light refreshments, and children’s entertainment being planned. If you would like to have a stall or are able to help with refreshments or children’s activities please contact the organiser Paul Hunt (email: paulhunt75@tiscali.co.uk).

Summer Outings are now being organised for next term. Three dates are planned, 29th and 30th June and 1st July which should allow all children the opportunity to attend one outing. For further information go to www.littleacorns-twxford.co.uk/summer-outings/.

Little Acorns Suggestion Box is located on one of the tables outside the main doors to the Pre-school. Thank you for the suggestions so far which have included having another table available for use during snack time so that all of the children can sit together and setting up a themed show and tell scheme.

Snack time is very much an opportunity for the children to decide when they are ready to take a break and eat during the allocated timeslot. As they decide to do this at different times having another table may not always be necessary. The new small table purchased will be made available for use, which will give additional seating if required.

Having a themed show and tell scheme has previously been used at Little Acorns with mixed success. In order to give the children the best opportunity to speak a toy or object of their choice or something relevant from activities they have been covering at home has better results. Examples include, a postcard from a recent holiday, or a toy train following on from going on a train ride. For more inspiration each half term there is a new theme, usually relevant to the seasons, displayed on the main playroom wall and table. This term you will see spring flowers, and Easter eggs, decorated by the children. Alternatively, why not come up with a theme relevant to your child, maybe transport, animals or colours.

If you have any ideas on how things could be improved please place them in the box provided.

We will shortly have a vacancy for a Cleaner at Little Acorns; hours covered are 3.15pm to 4.30pm daily, during term time. Please contact Rachel (email: manager.littleacorns@weyfs.org.uk) for more information.

Things to do during the Easter Holidays

Did you know that Wokingham Borough Council produces a ‘Days Out information Sheet’ and an updated Events calendar for school holidays? Check out www.wokingham.gov.uk/family/family-information-service/holiday-activities/ for more information.

With the Royal Wedding fast approaching, have you thought about seeing the soldiers marching at the Changing of the Guard? No need to go to London as Windsor Castle has its very own parade every day (except Sundays), starting at 10.45am, from April through to the end of July. For more information see www.windsor.gov.uk/site/things-to-do/changing-of-the-guard-p264351 and <http://www.royalcollection.org.uk/default.asp?action=article&ID=34#guard>. Why not follow up your day out with making trumpets (simply a piece of rolled up paper stuck together with some tape) and dressing up as soldiers, Princes or Princesses.

Don’t forget that the local Libraries and Children’s Centres will also be open over the Easter Holidays.

Have we missed anything? If you have any ideas regarding content that you would like to see included in this Newsletter, please let us know via the Suggestion Box.