

Leechpool Caterpillar Nursery & After-School Club



'A happy place to grow and learn'

c/o Leechpool Primary School, Leechpool Lane, Horsham, RH13 6AG. Tel: 01403 211388
managercatclub@hotmail.com
Manager – Kate Summerhayes

16th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the first newsletter of the academic year!

Welcome to our new children: Ellis, Tommy, Thomas S, Isla, Willow, Jasmine, Orion, Olivia, Joel, Lily, Dylan, Leo, Evelyn, Airabella, James & Betsy who have settled in beautifully! You will have been introduced to your child's key person by now and been invited to access Seesaw. If you have not please speak to either Kate or Maria.

Uniform:

Your children are looking super in our uniform! We have uniform available to purchase throughout the year:

New green sweatshirt £10

New green polo top £7.50

Old style blue sweatshirt £8.50

Old style green t-shirt £4.50

Please make sure your child wears suitable closed toe footwear to nursery.

Activities this half term

Our topic this term is 'In our neighbourhood' and our themes this half term will be:

All about me

In my garden

Harvest

Transport

Recycling

Shops

Shapes and patterns

We welcome books, pictures, leaflets etc from home to support our topics.

We are planning a visit from the Fire Brigade and a Woods For Learning session with Gary Marlow. These activities will take place within the school grounds. Visitors and experiences will be planned throughout the year for different days so each child can experience at least one activity.

Photographer: The school photographer will be in school on Friday 4th October. If your child does not attend on a Friday morning and you would like them to have a photograph taken please indicate on the form which will be outside this week. Time to be confirmed but is likely to be 9.30am.

Harvest collection 23rd-27th September: This year we will be joining the school and collecting items for the Trussell Trust which is a charity in Horsham which helps local families. If you are able to please donate tinned food, crisps, biscuits, toiletries and hygiene items next week 23rd-27th September. There will be a box outside nursery for all donations.

Drop off & collection

Our session times are:

8.50-11.50am

11.50-2.50pm

8.50-2.50pm

Please do not let your children climb on the equipment outside at the beginning and end of the day. Children remain the responsibility of their parent/carer until nursery opens and after collection.

We like to have the door closed by 9am in the morning and 12pm for afternoon sessions so we can start our Welcome Time. At Welcome Time we talk to the children about the sessions activities, our Golden Rules and share news. This is an important listening time for the children. Please drop off promptly when possible.

It's great to see so many of our children coming into nursery independently! Please make sure they are through the door before leaving the premises. A member of staff is on hand to help with hanging coats and bags.

If someone else is collecting your child please let a member of staff know beforehand. If you cannot do this at drop off then please call as I do not always pick up emails in time. If we have not met this person before we will require a password.

A few reminders:

Please please please name your children's belongings! We have 24 children each session and remembering who's coat/water bottle/lunchbox/bag etc belongs to is very time consuming for staff and often results in children going home with the wrong items!

Illness-Please keep your child at home if they are unwell. I understand that they may ask to come in but this will only delay them getting better and will spread germs to other children and staff. If your child needs paracetamol/ibuprofen to get through the day they are generally not well enough to attend nursery.

If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea, then they cannot return to nursery until 48 hours after their last episode

If your child has had any medication (ie Calpol, Nurofen, inhaler, antibiotics) before coming in to nursery please let a member of staff know-this is important in case your child is taken ill during nursery time and we need to seek medical help as they will ask for this information.

Please call or email if your child is not at nursery.

Snacks and Lunches:

Thank you for your donations towards morning snack foods. We offer a variety of fruits and vegetable as well as breadsticks and crackers.

Please note that we cannot have nuts in nursery-so please no peanut butter, Nutella or such like foods.

Hot meals- Please follow this link if you wish to register for and book and pay for your child's meals: Each meal costs £2.35 and must be booked and paid for in advance

<https://westsussex.mealselector.co.uk>

Put in "Leechpool School" as the school name and the class as "Caterpillars"

Contacts details: Please make sure we have an up to date email address for you so you receive our weekly activities emails and reminders. You can email managercatclub@hotmail.com with your child's name to be added to the list

Big Run:

There are 6 Big Runs scheduled for this year. The Big Run encourages awareness of good health. The Big Run takes place in the school grounds and is a walk/run around the wellbeing walk. Staff will take the Friday morning children on their Big Run at 9.15am on:

Friday 20th September

Friday 22nd November

Friday 31st January

Friday 13th March

Friday 3rd May

Friday 14th June

Celebrations and festivals

To support our children in learning about the wider world we would like to talk to them about celebrations and festivals which you celebrate at home or in your community. If there are celebrations or family traditions both religious or non-religious which you would like us to talk about and celebrate with your child please talk a member of nursery staff

Resources

We are looking for donations of wooden planks to use in the garden-these will be used by the children to create seats, build structures and balance.

We are always looking for donations of compost and sand for our mud kitchen as well as seeds and bulbs to develop our planting area.

WOW Moments

Please continue to send in your childrens WOW moments notes. These are for you to write your child's achievements on and to share at nursery. These achievements can be anything which made you go WOW! Such as toileting, sleeping, jumping into the pool for the first time, eating new foods, crossing the road carefully, getting dressed all by themselves.....!

Nursery closures:

Nursery is closed for INSET on Friday 25th October

Nursery is closed for half term between Monday 28th October and Friday 1st November

Staff news

Miss Laura Salisbury has joined us as a keyworker. Laura has many years of experience and will be a great addition to our strong staff team

Our dedicated nursery staff team are:

Miss Kate Summerhayes (Manager)

Mrs Maria Gwynn (Deputy Manager)

Mrs Hannah Broadbridge (Key person)

Mrs Bev John (Key person)

Mrs Jakki Maybank (Key person)

Miss Laura Salisbury (Key person)

Mrs Lucia Urden (Nursery assistant)

Mrs Ali Corpez (Nursery assistant)

Mrs Liz Groves (Administration)

Kind Regards

Kate Summerhayes
