



Leechpool Caterpillar
Nursery & After-School Club
T: 01403 211388
M: 07483171911
F: @leechpoolcaterpillarclub

September 2021

Start of Term Newsletter

A very warm welcome to our new Caterpillars who join us this term: Margot, Henry C, Harry C, Henry G, Alaska, Casper, Estella, Enya, Harry E, Joshua G, Jack H, Jaycee, Amira, Alara, Amelie, Jude, Sophie and Eliy. We've enjoyed welcoming our returning Caterpillars back into our nursery and are so looking forward to a term jam packed with fun.

Drop Off and Collection Timings

As we are now able to relax our restrictions around COVID, we are returning to our original drop-off and collection timings:

MORNING SESSIONS: 08:50 – 11:50
AFTERNOON SESSIONS: 11:50 – 14:50
ALL-DAY SESSIONS: 08:50 – 14:50

COVID Restrictions

Leechpool Primary School are still operating a staggered drop off and collection system to reduce the number of people on the grounds at once. Please ensure that you are on time when dropping off and collecting to ensure that we don't get caught up in the main school's drop off and collection times. If you are running late, please call to let us know.

Face coverings are no longer required and are now down to your own personal choice. We ask that you are respectful of the personal space of others.

Gate Intercom

A member of the Caterpillar Team will welcome you at the gate at the start and end of each session. If you need to come into the nursery any other time, please ring the "pedestrian" intercom system to the right of the pedestrian gate.

Big Run!

Caterpillar nursery children will be joining in with Leechpool Primary School's "Big Runs" this year. Its twice a term on a Friday morning and encourages awareness of good physical health. It takes place in the school grounds and is a walk / run around the wellbeing walk in the Primary School (around the big field). This term it takes place on Friday, 24th September, and 12th November at 9am.



Clothing

As the weather starts to change, please ensure that you send your child into nursery with the appropriate clothing and shoes, as well as a change of clothing. We have a lovely outdoor area and will continue to spend time out there in all weathers.

Nametags

Please ensure that you name EVERYTHING including all spare clothes, coats, hats, bags, water bottles etc. We have up to 24 children in each session, and it can be very time consuming trying to identify what item belongs to which child.

Uniforms

We have Caterpillar polo shirts and sweatshirts available to buy throughout the year. Prices are £7.50 for polo shirts and £10 for sweaters. Although these aren't compulsory, it's a good idea to have as they save your child's "good" clothes from getting mucky. If you would like to buy some, please chat to a member of our team.

Term Dates:

Last Day: 21st October
Inset Day: 22nd October
Half Term: 25th – 29th October
First Day Back: 1st November

Photographer

We are thrilled to announce that we have Adorable Photography joining us at the nursery to take photos this year. This will take place on Monday, 18th October 2021, and the proceeds from these photographs will be used to purchase new resources for Caterpillars. Children who attend the nursery in the morning will have their photos taken. Children who are not in nursery that morning will have the option to book an appointment in advance. Further details will be sent out closer to the time.

SeeSaw Journals

We will be archiving last years' online journals towards the end of the month, and you will no longer be able to access them. If you would like to keep your child's journal, please ensure that you download it by Monday, 27th September 2021. Please be aware that this can only be done on laptops or computers, and not on tablets or mobile phones.

Child Interest Sheets

These have been sent home to you. Please complete these and return as these help us with planning activities and offering any support needed.

WoW! Moments

We have sent home our WoW! Moments sheets. Please use these to share any exciting moments with us. These can be anything – putting on shoes independently, trying new foods, learning to scooter or ride a bike – any awesome achievement big or small. We will share this exciting news with the class and celebrate this achievement together.

Illnesses & Absentees

Please don't send your child in if they are unwell. If they need Calpol or Nurofen to get through the day, they are generally not well enough to come into nursery and are best kept at home to recover. Streaming noses, chesty coughs and fevers are all best treated at home.

If your child vomits or has an upset stomach, please do not send them into nursery until 48-hours after their last episode. These measures are put in place to reduce the spread of illness among other children and the staff.

If your child will be absent, please let us know either by calling, emailing, or sending us a message on SeeSaw.

Reports & Assessments

We will be sending a report with details of the next planned steps for your child each term in their bags. Please read, comment, and return these to the nursery. If you wish to discuss your child in more detail, please call or email to make an appointment with your child's key person.

Snack Donations

We offer a healthy snack each morning, and it offers a great opportunity to encourage our Caterpillars to try new tastes. We ask for a small donation towards this each term and will be sending out envelopes for you to pop some small change into.

Lunch Boxes

A gentle reminder that we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL** so please don't send your child in with any nut based products including nut spreads, chocolate spreads or cereal bars. We have children in our nursery with nut allergies so it is imperative that we follow this rule to ensure everyone is kept safe at all times.

Local Toddler Groups

Local parent and toddler playgroups are starting to open up again, offering an opportunity to meet up and make new friends. These are a couple of the most popular groups locally (click links for more information):

[Little Builders](#) meet twice a week during school term time on Tuesday & Thursday mornings from 10-11:30am.

[Springboard Stay and Play](#) sessions run Monday – Friday offering inclusive play, fun and social opportunities.

Horsham Library are slowly reintroducing story times and activities-I am in contact with the Families and Wellbeing Team at the library and will send out information on activities once known.

Garden Refurb

We are delighted to announce that our garden will be resurfaced as part of our refurbishment plans. This is booked for the 11th & 12th October, so we will be using the main field for some outdoor fun while the work is underway. Drop off and collections will be from the side door of the nursery during this time – further information will be sent nearer the date.