



Ladybird Forest Pre-School

Newsletter - Spring Term 2 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to our latest newsletter. Please read it to find out what is lined up for the next half term, as well as updates from some of the team.

We are so proud of how independent the children are becoming. They've done a great job sharing their 'Show and Tell' items with their peers and have really enjoyed the "Food" theme. Thank you to our Parent helper who helped the children prepare some delicious sushi this week.

Our bears, Vanilla, Cinnamon, and Ginger are all enjoying their new adventures with the children and we are loving the stories and photos of their visits to your homes. Thank you for making them welcome.

Kind regards
Amanda Sanders, Pre-School Manager

Dates for your Diary

Event	Date
Pre-School re-opens	Monday 26 th February
February Half Term	Monday 19 th February - Friday 27 th February
February Holiday Club	Monday 19 th February - Friday 27 th February
Come and Tell a Story	Thursday 29 th February - details have been sent out
Parents Evening/Parents Forum	Tuesday 5 th March & Wednesday 6 th March
Mother's Day Afternoon Tea	Saturday 2 nd March - details have been sent out
Easter Raffle	Details to follow
Easter Holiday Club	Tuesday 2 nd April - Friday 5 th April
Stay & Play	Monday 22 nd April - Friday 26 th April-Details to follow
May Half Term	Monday 27 th May - Friday 31 st May
Dads' Breakfast	Saturday 15 th June - Details to follow
Transitions to School	TBC
Stay & Play	Monday 24 th June - Friday 28 th June-Details to follow
Sports Day	Thursday 13 th June - TBC
Summer Fete	Saturday 6 th July 11am-1.30pm - TBC
Leavers' Party	Tuesday 16 th July -TBC
Last Day of Term	Friday 19 th July
Summer Holiday Club	Monday 22 nd July - Friday 9 th August

Staff News

We are saying a sad farewell to our lovely colleagues, Laura, and Jess this term.



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Laura, our passionate Forest School teacher, first started working at Ladybird in 2017, but has recently relocated away from the area and is leaving 16th February. She will be sorely missed, by our team, the children and of course Hermie and Wormie, our Forest School mascots! Laura thanks your children for the adventures in Forest School that they have shared together and wishes them all the best for the future. We wish Laura health and happiness in her new home.

Forest School will continue to run next term and throughout the rest of the year (although as normal, not in the first and last weeks of each half-term), so please continue to ensure your child is wearing suitable layers, as necessary. Thank you.

Jess joined us in March 2023 to complete her Level 3 apprenticeship in Early Years, which she successfully finished this month. She is moving on to gain experience in a skill which will bring her closer to achieving her longer-term career goal. We wish Jess all the best in her next challenge. Jess's last day will be on 28th February.

We have been recruiting and will let you know who will be joining our dedicated team soon.

General News

Training:

Mandy and Jade are in the process of training to become Mental health First Aiders for the Pre-School.

Fundraising:

We will be selling raffle tickets during March 2024 for the chance to win one of our Easter Hamper. Details to follow.

CHUMS: Thank you for your generosity during Shine Bright Wear Bright week. You raised an incredible £77.35 - well done!

Tesco Blue Tokens: Please help us raise money for sensory/wellbeing resources for our sensory room, by voting for us with your blue tokens in Tesco, Flitwick. We would love to see photos on Tapestry of your child voting. The scheme is running until 31/03/24.

Next Projects:

This year, we've been raising funds to install air-con throughout the building. The funds raised at the Christmas Bazaar and our December and February Holiday Clubs have helped with this goal, and we hope to raise enough to install air-con later this year.



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Come and tell a story 29th February 2.15pm - 2.45pm:

Please come and share your favourite stories to a small group of children. If you are interested, please complete the form here <https://forms.gle/tFJXNwEzie88NSD79> or email manager@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk. Thank you!

Parents' Evenings 5th and 6th March:

Thank you for booking a slot to meet your child's Key Person.

During the Parents' Evenings, we will be providing you with additional information regarding:

- Benefits/Funding Support Information
- Oral Health Support
- Wellbeing Support

We also hope to be joined by a Central Beds Early Years Advisory Teacher.

Stay and Play w/c 22nd - 26th April:

We will be starting 'Stay and Play' sessions again for parents/carers to come in the morning 10am-11am and afternoon from 2pm-3pm. Details to follow.

Parents' Notice Board:

Please take the time to read the Parents' notice board and leave any messages in the message box, which is changed daily. We are always looking to improve the Pre-School and any ideas will help support your child's environment.

Nappies:

If your child is in nappies/pull-ups, please ensure there are spare nappies/ pull-ups and wipes in your child's bag. Alternatively, there is a charge of £1 per nappy/ pull-up if you need to use our resources.

Boot Bags:

All children are required to have a **non-plastic boot bag**, for health reasons boots with no bags will be left outside under the shelter, we are happy for you to bring in and take home each forest school session, but children with no boots will not be able to attend forest school, sorry for the inconvenience this may cause.

February/Easter/Summer 2024 Holiday Clubs:

Holiday Club is open to children from 3 - 7 years of age. Ladybird staff run activities throughout the day, and there's time for the children to unwind with a snack in front of



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a movie in the afternoon. You may be able to use left-over funding to pay for your hours.

If you have not yet done so, please book your space here:

- Easter: <https://forms.gle/QAFGW8khYfk8eTWC9>
- Summer: <https://forms.gle/cXyduXBUq3xsVgeVA>

Staff Updates

Forest School:

The children settled well into Forest School this year and are doing well with their first curriculum goal: getting their boots on and lining up at the door. They will now be working towards understanding the log circle and the Forest School rules. We're very excited for the warmer weather, so that we can start planting and growing!

Mindfulness and Well-being:

The children continue to enjoy our active wellbeing and mindfulness sessions during the day. They did amazingly during Children's Mental Health week, and we raised £38.35 for CHUMS. Mental Health is very important here at Ladybirds and we hope to continue to support the children understand their emotions and be happy and comfortable to express themselves.

Your Well-being: We are passionate about well-being at Ladybird and would like to share contacts and numbers for you to use if you need support.

- Anxiety UK - 03444 775 774 (helpline)
- Beat - 0808 801 0677 (Eating disorder advice)
- CALM - 0800 58 58 58
- No Panic - 0300 7729844
- www.mind.org.uk for other advice and contacts.

Jade, Well-being Lead

PANCo:

The children are starting to enjoy the slightly warmer weather and spending more and more time outside. We encourage children to spend time outside to burn off some of that energy! Our children at Pre-School are supposed to have 180 minutes of physical activity a day so we try and help them hit that quota whenever we can throughout the day including obstacle courses, dancing, yoga / stretching or just running around! Thank you for your continued support.

Jade, PANCo Lead



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Phonics sessions:

Thank you all for supporting your children with Show and Tell. It really helps build their confidence, when they stand up share their item with their friends.

We have been very busy this term in our Phonics sessions, learning the c k h e r m d letters songs and sounds. The favourite activity this term was our hand puppets: Harry, Henrietta and Hetty, who ate lots of different objects beginning with h including Hulk, a hospital and even a hamster! I have noticed the children are starting to recognise letters in the environment and are also becoming super name writers with lots of practice using their name boards. They are also choosing to write during child-led activities both inside and outside of the setting. We look forward to having lots of fun whilst learning the next set of letters next term: g o u l f and seeing their fabulous Show and Tell items next term.

Tiffany, Phonics Lead

Fees and funding:

Thank you for paying your fees for Spring Term 1. Here's a reminder of the invoice dates for the rest of the school year:

2024 Invoice dates			
Term payable	Invoice period	Invoice date, w/c:	Due date
Spring 2	26/02/22 - 28/03/24	26/02/2023	22/03/2023
Summer 1	15/04/24 - 24/05/24	22/04/2023	17/05/2023
Summer 2	03/06/24 - 19/07/24	10/06/2023	05/07/2023

Victoria, Admin Manager

March/April Birthdays 2024:

- **Happy 4th Birthday:** Alfie, Henry, Hudson, Layla, Peyton,
- **Staff Birthday:** Victoria, Jade

Website:

Please look on the pre-school website www.ladybirdforestpre-school.org.uk for more information on what we provide for the children, Thank you!

Facebook:

Please follow the Ladybird Forest Pre-School page on Facebook. You will see photos of the Pre-School activities and recent events. Thank you!