

Dates for the Diary

21st October 2016	Last Day of Half Term
w/c 24th October 2016	Half Term break
31st October 2016	First Day back after half term
	Halloween Party—see info over-posters to follow
December 2016	Date TBC—Christmas Carol Service—families invited in—info to follow
15th Dec 2016	Last Day of term & Xmas Party—info to follow
16th Dec 2016	CLOSED—INSET DAY
16th Dec—3rd Jan	CLOSED—XMAS BREAK
3rd Jan 2017	CLOSED—INSET DAY
4th Jan 2017	First Day back after Xmas break
W/C 20th Feb 2017	Half Term break

NEW ACADEMIC CALENDAR ATTACHED FOR 2016/17



WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back after the Summer break!
We hope you all enjoyed the lovely weather and the time you spent with your children:)

The start of term sees some new children start with us and the current children have been wonderful in helping them settle in!

We are also looking forward to seeing our school leavers in their school photos in October which appears in the Newbury Weekly News and the Gazette. I have spoken to all the schools and the children have settled in wonderfully:)

DEAR ZOO...



As you may have seen on our Facebook Page, our topic for this term is based on the book, Dear Zoo.

This is a wonderful story with a fun introduction to animals and their characteristics.

The book allows the children to engage with the story and encourages their participation both verbally and physically.

We have planned a huge range of activities for your children to partake in, some of which they may talk to you about at home, so please come and speak to us if you would like to borrow any of the resources to continue this play/learning at home.

AGM Thursday 30th June

After our AGM in June, we would like to say goodbye to our previous committee and welcome in our new one!

James Edmondson will be staying on as Chairman. You will see him around the setting much more as his youngest child has now started with us!

We would like to say a huge thanks to Jane Fidler who is stepping down as Secretary. Jane has been with us a number of years and was a tremendous help in getting the setting confirmed as a Charity several years ago as well as keeping the setting compliant with all this entails.

Jane is being replaced by Rachel Hughes, who has been with us about a year now and has her 2 children with us.

We also say goodbye to Lisa Holley who has been our treasurer for the last year. Again we thank Lisa for everything she has done for our setting.

Nicole Hutchinson is taking over the Treasurer role.

During our AGM, we also realised a huge part of Jane's secretary role was in dealing with the Compliance of the Charity Commission. As this is such a large area to keep on top of, we have decided to separate this away from the secretary role. Helen Scott, who was previously our web advisor, will take on this role. While all these roles are fulfilled, we always have the space for any parent helpers for any of our events and also to attend our Committee meetings to offer ideas or just to see what we are planning!

We also still need considerable help with the planning and implementing of our new build project, so if you are able to help with this, please let me know.

URGENT IDENTIFICATION NEEDED...

In relation to recent Hampshire & Government updates, we now need to see your child's birth certificate or passport.

Please could you arrange to bring these in by **7th October** so we can update your child's file.

We will not need a copy, we just need to see the original so we can make a note of the document number - **BUT THIS HAS TO BE THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.**

We thank you for your help:)



Sad goodbye...

It is with great sadness that we are to say goodbye to Becky after a short time with us:(

Unfortunately, after coming from a full time role to our lesser hour setting, Becky has had to make the difficult decision to go back to a full time setting.

We hope you join us in wishing her all the best for her future role and as always, we will keep you up to date with her replacement and those of you who has Becky as Key Person, I will be looking after your children until a replacement has been found.

We will be advertising immediately and hope to have someone in place in November.

AUTUMNAL CHILL



The colder weather is starting to kick in, so please ensure your child comes to preschool with the appropriate clothing - wellies, waterproofs, coats, hats and gloves. While we have a small selection of these, we don't have enough or the right sizes for all children, so we ask you to ensure your child comes with their own.

We try to get the children outside as much as possible, only staying inside for extremely low temperatures or very heavy rain. This does mean your child will be getting dirty outside while they play, so please ensure you send your child in clothing that you don't mind getting muddy/dirty.

As always, remember to name EVERYTHING!!!

Events for the coming year...

Just a bit of info about the events we have coming up this year:

Halloween Party—31st October 2016—CHILD ONLY EVENT—All children invited, if not your child's normal day they can swap or additional fees will apply. Children can come dressed up in ANY costume and we play games and partake in Halloween style activities (pumpkin carving, decorating biscuits)

Christmas Carol Service—December 2016 TBC—FAMILY EVENT—our biggest fundraiser of the year! Here we invite all children along with their families and friends to come and join in with singing Xmas carols. The singing lasts all of 5 minutes!! But a great chance to see the children sing and there are various stalls selling items the children have made along with other games and activities to help raise funds for the preschool. Our Bake Off will also be making a great return!

Xmas Party—15th December 2016—CHILD ONLY EVENT—All children invited, if not your child's normal day they can swap or additional fees will apply. We have Mr Mac join us to perform some magic tricks, Punch & Judy and balloon modelling. He has been coming to us for many years as he's a massive favourite with all the children (& the staff!!). On this day we provide party food and we have lots of games and activities.

Easter Egg Hunt—6th April 2017 (TBC)—FAMILY EVENT- We invite all children and their families to join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Another fundraiser where children's items they have made will be on sale along with other stalls. We will also see the return of our Bake Off challenge:)

Sports Day—July 2017 TBC—FAMILY EVENT—Our annual Sporting Event where the children go round a carousel of activities for our own Impstone Olympics! All children and families invited.

We will send out posters with more details for each of these nearer the time.

YOUR CHILD'S RECORD OF DEVELOPMENT FILE

These are sent home either before or after the half terms as follows:
October, February & May.

You will get the chance to take home and read through your child's file and add any comments on the Parent Comments Page. There will be a report from your child's Key Person along with a report showing your child's current assessments within the EYFS curriculum.

You will also get the chance to meet with your child's key person if you wish.

However, you are able to see your child's file at any time throughout the year and also speak to your key person at any time too.

There is a 'Parents As Partners' section in your child's file where you are able to add any comments or pictures that you capture of your child at home or out and about. You can email pictures in to me and I will print them and pass them on to your key person if you prefer. You can also speak to your key person and they can write these down to add!

