Little Squirrels Parent Day Throughout December

Parent Days are a great opportunity for all parents of Little Squirrels children to come into Nursery and see their child’s key person to have a little chat about their progress. We will be holding Parent Days during the whole month of December so if you would to come in and see your child’s key person during that month, then please complete the reply slip. The Little Squirrels staff will be writing a summative report on every child so it would be wonderful to see as many parents as we can. Please do come along if you are able, thank you.

Christmas Parties – Monday 14th December

The Christmas Parties have been booked for Monday 14th December at Corse and Staunton Village Hall for the following times:-

- **Ladybirds**: 9:00am to 10:30am
- **Hedgehogs**: 11:00am to 12:30pm
- **Little Squirrels**: 1:00pm to 2:30pm
- **Big Squirrels**: 3:30pm to 5:00pm

There will be games, activities, bouncy castles and, of course, Father Christmas in attendance! If you would like to come to the party, please complete the reply slip and return it to Nursery. Please could we ask that all Ladybird parents bring a named feeder cup and there will be a list for small donations of food for the parties in due course. Thank you.

Carol Singing 18th December from 6:00pm

Every year we offer our services for carol singing to parent’s houses within a 10 mile radius of Nursery, to raise money for Children In Need. This year we will be offering our singing services on 18th December.

This is a great evening and if you would like us to attend, we would love to come to your house to carol sing. Please complete the reply slip and we will come and visit, along with our harmonious singing voices. Father Christmas is always with us, and he has gifts for all of the children. This is a very popular evening, so if you would like us to visit, please complete the form and we will come on a first come first served basis. I will write to confirm our estimated time of arrival, although you may hear our singing first! We usually arrive in the Nursery mini bus with Santa on board. We begin with the first house at 6:00pm and we continue on our rounds until we finish (usually about 8:00pm)

My very close friend, Brian, the guitarist has also promised to accompany us so we should be in fine voice when we get to you!! I should also add, that with a few glasses of mulled wine, we shall be in fine spirits - so please listen out for our harmonious singing!
Open Evening Enjoyed By All

We held an Open Evening on the 30th September for all parents to come into Nursery to have an informal chat with the staff team and speak to our representatives if they had any concerns about their child’s developments. We would like to thank all parents who attended we hope you enjoyed it as much as did. It was lovely to have the opportunity to catch up with parents on a more relaxed basis and promote positive partnerships and building relationships with our parents.

After the positive feedback both from parents and staff we are planning to hold another Open Evening in the summer next year and have Outdoor Learning as it’s focus. We will let you know more details nearer the time.

Macmillan Coffee Morning Success

We held a Grandparents Open Morning and linked it with a cake sale for Macmillan Cancer Support. We are happy to say that we raised an fabulous £133.25 all of which will be going to Macmillan to support their work and research.

We had a bake off and we are pleased to announce the winners of the Bake Off Competition: 1st prize goes to Rose for her excellent hedgehog cake, 2nd prize goes to William for his funky fish cake and 3rd prize goes to Mya for her yummy pineapple upside down cake! Thank you to everyone who came along and thank you to Geoff and Pam for judging the cakes for us.

Sainsbury’s Active Kids Order Received

After saving up all of your kindly donated vouchers and after much anticipation we have received the Sainsbury’s goodies that we exchanged the vouchers for! Thank you everyone who let us have their vouchers it was much appreciated and we were able to get some lovely new resources including some great new things for our outdoor learning areas.

Thank You to Felicity’s Parents

We would like to thank Felicity’s parents for the lovely gifts they kindly gave to Ladybirds. The birdhouse is beautiful and the children love exploring the new mirrored numbers. Both gifts are in the Ladybirds patio and the children love them so thank you very much!
Visit to the Over 60’s

On the 5th October Big Squirrels went to visit the over 60’s to celebrate the Harvest Festival with them. We took gifts and sang songs, which the ladies loved. The over 60’s really enjoy our visits and appreciated us taking the time to visit them.

Moderation Meeting—8th October at Countryside

As a part of the Lead Practitioner programme, Grace attends Moderation meetings with other Lead Practitioners to moderate the EYFS curriculum. This provides an opportunity to ensure all practitioners across the board have the same understanding when assessing individual children’s progress. It was Grace’s turn to chair the meeting and it was a great success.

Tesco Trip for Little Squirrels

Little Squirrels enjoyed a trip to Tesco on the 9th October. They had ‘shopping lists’ of ingredients that they needed to look out for to put in the trolley. They had great fun looking around the different isles trying to find what was on their shopping list and counting the items which they needed. The children put everything through the till at the end, brought the shopping back to Nursery and then used what they had bought to make some delicious wraps for their tea.

Visit from Delilah—Oscar’s sheep

Oscar’s Grandma (Hedgehogs) brought in a lovely visitor with Uncle Ashley on the 9th October! We were very pleased to meet Delilah who is a lovely sheep. Her wool is so soft it was a great experience for the children to see a sheep up close and be able to pet her. Thank you to Nadelle And Ashley for taking the time to bring Delilah into Nursery the children loved it.
Magic Moments

Please let us know if your child has done something exciting at home and we will celebrate it here with a Wow certificate! It is really wonderful to see our children taking steps forward in their learning and development and they also love sharing their certificates with their friends during Circle Time.

Ladybirds: We welcome Poppy, Isabella and Martha into Ladybirds and they have all done a super job of settling into Nursery, well done! Ruby is doing really well with her language skills and is using more words - clever girl. Evie has been showing us how well she can now stand, well done! Jessica is now walking, well done that is amazing! Sophie has been trying lots of new foods and textures, we are very proud of you. William has been practicing his building skills and is now making towers, excellent well done! Harriet has been doing a super job of walking with a walker, good girl!

Hedgehogs: Well done to Tilly for being such a kind and caring big sister, you have been brilliant! Ted W and Theo are now both in a Big Boys Bed—well done to you both! Jack is now in Big Boy pants well done you clever boy. Iris and Oscar are now starting to sit on the potty, well done! Fraser is now pedalling a trike at home—amazing news!

Little Squirrels: Josh, Archie and Ruby have settled very well into Little Squirrels, well done for being so grown up!

Big Squirrels: Well done to Ronnie for getting into Swimming School - we wish you all the best with your lessons!

Thank you to Julia

Julia (Hedgehogs Supervisor) is the proud new owner of 2 very cute little kittens! She kindly brought them in on 15th October for the children to meet. The children loved being able to pet them and watch them explore the room. Thank you Julia for bringing these kittens in—it was a lovely experience for the children!

Trip to Over Farm

Big Squirrels had a fabulous time visiting Over Farm on 15th October, we really enjoyed looking at the different animals and we got to visit the shop to buy some vegetables to bring back for the Home Corner. Thank you for the visit we had an amazing time!

Information for Parents

I wanted to include a link to an Early Years Guide - a booklet called "What to Expect When" which is available to download here: http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/2015/06/what-to-expect-when-a-parents-guide-2/

The purpose of this booklet is to help you as a parent/carer find out more about how your child is learning and developing during their first five years, in relation to the EYFS. Children develop more rapidly during the first five years of their lives than at any other time. This booklet has been written to help you as a parent know what to expect during these vitally important years by focusing on the seven areas of learning and development which are covered in the EYFS. I hope that you will find it useful.

Also I have included a link on how to keep your children safe and know the rules about PANTS: http://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/the-underwear-rule---guide-for-parents-new-brand.pdf