



Newsletter December 2023

Hello!

We are getting very Christmassy at Little Sunbeams. If it's not too early to say; we would like to wish all of our Children and Parents/Carers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy new year.

Our Committee

Following on from our recent AGM we are pleased to confirm our committee members as;

Scott Turnball (Rubys Dad) – Chairperson

Katie Collins-Hardman (Dylans Mum) Co-Chairperson

Jill Everdell – Treasurer

Amanda Hart – Secretary

Lyn Donnelly - Manager

Our next committee meeting will take place on Tuesday 23rd January at 7pm in our preschool room, all parents are welcome to attend. This is your opportunity to find out more about the running of the preschool.

Your Childs Christmas Card The orders have now been received and will be given out in your child's book back

Hallett Photography

Hallett Photography are visiting on Monday 4th December to take individual (and sibling) photos of the children. If your child does not normally attend a Monday but you wish for them to have their photo taken please speak to a member of staff.

A visit from Father Christmas

Father Christmas and his Elf will be taking time from their busy schedule to visit us on Wednesday 13th December between 10:30 and 12:30. If your child does not normally attend on Wednesday and still wishes to visit Father Christmas and you have not already spoken to us please talk to us asap so we can arrange this for you

Our Birthday Party

An invitation has been given to your child for our Birthday Party on Friday 5th January 10am to 12 noon. The invite is for your Child and up to two family members. Please let us know asap if you will be attending

The party will consist of many free activities for you to share with your child as well as a couple of stalls with a small fee (Lucky Dip and Jarbola) as well as refreshments and cake sale (small donation).

If you can help, we are looking for the following;

- A donation of wrapped sweets and vouchers for our Jarbola (Please provide by Friday 15th December.
- Cakes or cookies for our Birthday Party cake sale (Please provide on the day of the party)
- We have also placed a birthday wish list on the gate, if you can help by purchasing any items please take a note, we really appreciate it.

Your Childs Yellow Book Bag

Please make sure your child brings in their Yellow Book Bag each day as we often have notes and artworks to send home and it makes things a lot easier.

Your Childs Packed Lunch and Water bottle

Just a reminder that your child's packed lunch box should **NOT** contain any of the following:

- Any nuts or nut products (this includes nut butters and chocolate spreads containing nuts)
- Sweets (This includes chocolate bars, chocolate coins or chewy sweets such as haribo's)
- Fizzy drinks

Please also ensure that any grapes, sausages or any other foods that are a spherical shape and could be a choking hazard are cut into quarters.

Please remember that we ask that all children should bring in water only in their drinks bottles. Other drinks should only be included as part of their packed lunch.

Starting School September 2024

If your child was born between 1 Sept 2019 and 31 Aug 2020 they are due to start year R in September 2024. **Applications open on 1st November 2023** and are made through <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning>. **Applications close 15th January 2024.**

Information regarding school open days was given to you in a separate letter.

Reminder for parents claiming '30 hours childcare' in the Spring 2024 term

All parents who are working, have a 3 or 4 year old and want to claim funded extended hours (30 hours childcare), **must** make sure they have applied to [HMRC](https://www.gov.uk/sign-in-childcare-account) no later than 31 December 2023. All parents with a 30 hours code need to make sure their details are up to date. They must do this every three months: <https://www.gov.uk/sign-in-childcare-account>.

All new codes must be verified by preschool by 31st December 2023, if you think you are eligible and wish to take up this funding please speak to a member of staff.

Tax Free Childcare If you pay childcare fees you may be able to get help with paying for this through the Tax Free Childcare scheme. Visit www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare to get more information and check your eligibility.

Family Photo album

We have a photo album in preschool holding photos of the children with their families. This is a real talking point for the children and can also be a comfort when they need to see photos of their loved ones. Could you please create an observation on your child's Tapestry Journal and attach a recent photo. (Please include in the observation the names of all the family members shown.) We will then print this out. Thank you

Policies

Our policies are regularly reviewed and updated. Please go to our website to read the current policies.

Waypoint Hub

The Waypoint Hub provides food parcels and support to those who need it. It is situated in the same building as the preschool. It is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am to 12 noon.

Services offered include:

Food Parcels – For anyone who is struggling and needs help with food, either as a one off or to help you get through a difficult period

More 4 Less – For a £5 donation you can get at least £15 worth of items (Fresh, Frozen, Tinned, Packets, Household and Toiletries)

Citizens Advice Outreach – Drop in to get advice Tuesdays 9.30 – 11.30

DON'T STRUGGLE ALONE – HELP IS AVAILABLE

Dates for your diary

Hallet Photography Visit – Monday 4th December – 9am-10am

Father Christmas Visit – Wednesday 13th December – 10.30 – 12.30 (More information to follow)

Christmas Holiday – Monday 18th December 2023 to Monday 1st January 2024 (No Preschool)

Friday 5th January – Preschool 15th Birthday Party – 10am to 12 noon (NO NORMAL PRESCHOOL SESSIONS).

Spring Half Term Holiday – Monday 12th February 2024 to Friday 16th February 2024 (No Preschool)

Easter Holiday – Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April 2024 (No Preschool)

May Day – Monday 6th May 2024 (No Preschool)

Summer Half Term Holiday – Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May (No Preschool)

Last Day of Academic Year – Thursday 18th July

Leavers Party Friday 19th July.