



SUMMER TERM NEWSLETTER 2022

End of Year Celebration Tuesday 19 July 12 noon

Summer Term ends Tuesday 19 July

Autumn Term Begins Monday 5 September

Half Term 24-28 October

If your child is unwell or unable to come to pre-school for any other reason please let the setting know by 10am of the morning concerned by **text** to the setting phone on 07968 192246. After that time if we have not heard from you we will contact you to ensure all is well. Please note this phone is not monitored outside of session hours. Absences known in advance may be emailed or texted though the latter is preferred.

End of Year Celebration Reminder

Our End of Year Celebration this year will be held on Tuesday, July 19th at 12 noon. All children are welcome to attend even if they are usually not in the setting on a Tuesday. Parents and grandparents are of course also warmly invited.



What's On At St Paul's Church?

Family Picnic 10th July.
There is a family picnic on Sunday 10th July after the morning service. Meet in Cheam Park with a blanket and your picnic.



Stay and Play during the summer holidays Monday 1st August and Monday 22nd August 10am-12pm. We are opening up The Hub and the church hall for parents and children to enjoy refreshments and our favourite toddler toys. Stay and Play is free but there will be a charge for refreshments. Suitable for babies and young children.

Extended Wednesday

We have enjoyed having some of the older children stay until 2.45pm on Tuesday-Thursday afternoons this year. It's a lovely opportunity to spend time with a smaller group of children and help develop their learning further. Recently we made some luggage labels and passports which were then stamped before we received our 'boarding cards' complete with seat number which we then had to find on the 'plane'. After take-off the flight lieutenant served drinks and snacks and our destination was discussed! If your child/children are returning in September, are nearly three years old or above and you haven't as yet signed them up why not think about doing so?

Please contact us at:-
littlefishes@saintpauls.co.uk

Summer Term News

Photographer

Tina Reid a photographer will be coming into the setting on Tuesday, July 5th to take some informal photos of the children. We opted not to go with portrait style photos this year as in the past we've found that some of the children find the experience daunting. Hopefully this way the children will feel more relaxed and therefore the photos more natural. Examples of Tina's work can be found on her website at <https://www.tinareidphotography.com/children>

Remember that even if your child doesn't usually come to Little Fishes on a Tuesday they are welcome to come in for half an hour or so for a Stay and Play session from 9.30am so that a few photos can be taken.



Don't forget to complete the permission form sent out recently in an email.

Jill's Retirement

Jill Morrison will be retiring at the end of term and there will be an opportunity to say goodbye to her at the End of Year Celebration. Jill has been on the staff team almost from the very beginning of Little Fishes joining in 2004, training first as an early years practitioner before then moving into the role of Setting Manager. Jill is an excellent communicator and organiser and has been extremely supportive of both staff and children over her years with us. She will be sorely missed though we are hoping that she will return occasionally as bank staff! In the meantime we wish her a very happy retirement.

End of Term Presents

At the end of the Summer Term in the past, some parents have generously bought the setting chocolates when their children have left Little Fishes. Whilst we have greatly appreciated the gesture, our figures have not really benefited!! Thus without wanting to seem presumptuous, we wondered whether if you were thinking of buying something for the setting, you might consider buying a book from our wish list? Please don't feel under any obligation to do so though!

Free Online Guide for Families in Surrey

Bringing up children is a lot of fun but can also have its challenges and understanding your child's emotional development can help to support your relationship and your child's behaviour.

Families living in Surrey can get access to FREE online guides that include top tips from childcare, education and NHS health experts.

Understanding your pregnancy, labour, birth and your baby

Understanding your baby

Understanding your child 0-19 years

Understanding your teenager's brain

Understanding your brain (for teenagers only!)

Understanding your child with additional needs

The guides are available in other languages including Urdu, Chinese and Polish.

Register for free using the code 'ACORN' by visiting the Children and Family Health Surrey web-site: childrenshealthsurrey-nhs.uk/services/free-online-guides-families.

Tiny Happy People

This website has been created to help parents develop their child's communication skills. There are simple activities and play ideas to explore and videos helping you discover more about your child's amazing early development. Did you know for example that playing with a ball has benefits for language development? Or have you wondered why your child asks so many 'why' questions? The answer is revealed here!

What is 30 hours Funded Childcare?

Most working parents of three and four year olds are eligible for an extra 15 hours of funded childcare a week, term time. Added to your current universal entitlement of 15 hours Funded Early Education for three and four year olds, this means that your entitlement will increase to a total of 30 hours a week, term time (or 1140 hours over a year). We are registered for 30 hours funded childcare term time and offer up to 24.75 hours. If you wish to claim all 30 hours some parents arrange for a childminder to cover the extra time.

If you think you might be eligible apply through the government's Childcare Choices website. There's 30 Hours Eligibility Guidance to help you understand whether you will qualify. If your application is successful, you'll get given an 11 digit eligibility code which you must then give us so that we can check your eligibility. A child can only take up their extended hours from the term following the date of issue of their 30 hour code. Eligibility code applications for the Autumn Term 2022 may be made up until August 31st.

Butterfly Life Cycle

Our caterpillars arrived recently and the children have been observing them grow larger and larger as they have eaten more and more food. They're now pupating on the roof of their container so we will be carefully transferring them to their new quarters very soon.



Alongside our observations we've been creating some butterfly patterns and talking about symmetry with the older children. We've also been using our small world props to help all of our children become really familiar with the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar.' It not only gives them an understanding of the life cycle of the butterfly but also provides opportunities for developing their counting as well as their recognition of numerals. Several children are now able to understand the concept of 'one more' and can tell you the new total number of fruit too.

If you see any butterflies flying around your garden or when out on walks do draw your child's attention to them and talk about their patterns and body parts.

Here's a link to an identification chart if you're interested in discovering their names.

https://butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/garden_butterflies_chart.pdf

Polio/Vaccination Reminder

You may have seen in the news that polio has been found in London sewage water - although this represents a small risk to the public, it's a timely reminder



to ensure children are fully up to date with their vaccinations. Polio vaccine is part of the routine national immunisation schedule. If you or your child are not up to date with your polio vaccinations it's important you contact your GP to catch up, or if unsure, check your Red Book.

Find out more about childhood vaccinations at:-

<https://surreycountycouncil.newsweaver.co.uk/childcareprofessionalsupdate/181de60hbwepn1jpqulfc5/external?email=true&a=5&p=61807695&t=29593599>



The staff at Little Fishes would like to thank parents for their support throughout this year. We wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing some of you back on Monday 5 September 2022! For those children moving onto a new setting we trust that they settle quickly and enjoy this next phase of their educational journey.