



# Little Lambs Pre-School Centre Parents Termly Newsletter - Autumn 2022

## Welcome!

A special welcome as we start our Autumn Term and we hope you all had an enjoyable summer.

The first few weeks are very much a settling in process and if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to talk to us. Please rest assured that we are here to support you and your children through the next few weeks of changes!

We continue to offer the 30 hours entitlement for working parents to our older children. Please don't forget their packed lunches! Remember, we are a nut free environment.

We pray for all the children in our care, for those starting school and for those we know have current health issues. God bless you all.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year with you and your children.

*Jen and the team*

## Staff News

At the end of last term we said goodbye to our apprentice, Emily.

This term we welcome two new nursery apprentices who have already been working with us on placements - Matthew and Esme. We also welcome Aeysha as a nursery assistant, who worked with us on a student placement last year.

## Little Lambs Pre-School Centre

Issue 46

Autumn Term 2022

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## Important Dates for your Diary

W/C 26th September	Planned trip to our local allotment for Morning children to experience Harvest (parents to accompany and details to follow)
Friday 30th September	Harvest Special for Morning Children We will ask for any tinned goods to be donated for local families in need.
Monday 10th October	Morning Children - Autumn Nature Walk at Wollescote Park Afternoon Children - Autumn Nature Walk at Wollescote Park <b>Sorry, nursery will not be open for those not attending the trip on this day and there will be no 30hrs pm session</b>
Friday 21st October	<b>NURSERY CLOSED</b> - INSET DAY
<b>Monday 24th - Friday 28th October - HALF TERM</b>	
Monday 31st October	<b>NURSERY CLOSED</b> - INSET DAY
Thursday 10th November 4.00pm onwards	Parents evening for all children - appointments with your child's key person to be made nearer the time
Friday 11th November	<b>NURSERY CLOSED</b> - January Intake visit
Friday 9th December	Nativity for all morning children
Wednesday 14th December	Breakfast with Santa - morning children - normal session times - children only - <b>End of Term session for am children</b>
Wednesday 14th December	Celebration of Christmas for all afternoon children and parents and visit from Santa - <b>End of Term session for pm children</b> <b>There will be no 30 hours pm session</b>
Thu & Fri 16th & 17th Dec	Staff only

**Spring Term starts**  
Tuesday 3rd Jan for staff,  
**Wednesday 4th Jan for**  
afternoon children and  
**Thursday 5th Jan for**  
morning children

## Outdoor Curriculum



At Little Lambs we see the outdoors as an important part of our learning environment. Current Government Guidelines advise that children spend as much time as possible learning outdoors. **With this in mind, it is essential that all children wear suitable clothing/shoes each day and bring a warm, waterproof coat.** Outdoors is full of interesting and fascinating experiences where deep-level learning can take place on a daily basis.

## Arrival & Collection Times

We ask all parents to abide by the following staggered arrival and collection times:

### Morning Children

**Rainbow and Butterfly Room Children**  
Drop off and collect from main nursery entrance 8.25 - 8.35am  
11.25 - 11.35am

**Sunshine Room Children**  
Drop off and collect from Sunshine Room door on outdoor area 8.25 - 8.35am  
11.25 - 11.35am

### Afternoon Children

**Rainbow Room Children**  
Drop off and collect at main nursery entrance 12.30 - 12.40pm  
2.50 - 3.00pm

**Children Accessing 30 hour sessions**  
Collection from main nursery entrance 2.50 - 3.00pm

## Parking

A reminder to parents about parking at our busiest times of day on arrival and departure.

**PLEASE DO NOT double park or park on pavements. This is not only dangerous, but could result in the Police being called and cars being ticketed.**

*In addition, please do not block the entrances to the Church car park or nursery drive.*

## 30hrs Afternoon Sessions

Please note, there will be no afternoon sessions for the 30 hours children on the following dates:

- Monday 10th October
- Wednesday 14th December

## Toys

Please encourage your child to leave toys at home. We have lots of toys in nursery and their own toys may get lost or broken if they bring them into nursery.

## Important Reminders:

### Smoking & Vaping

Bethel grounds and premises are no smoking areas. This includes both traditional and e-cigarettes. The boundary includes the area in front of the Little Lambs gates to a line between the front railings and the church wall. If you must smoke whilst waiting for your children, please do so on the public footpath and leave this recess smoke-free for parents, children & babies waiting at the gates. Thank you



### Mobile Phones



Mobile phones must not be used once inside the nursery grounds.

### Clothes



Could all parents make sure that they bring a spare change of clothes daily (needed for water play or toileting purposes)

Also could we ask parents to return any spare Little Lambs clothes they may have at home which they have borrowed

## Collection of Children

- Please note that if it is not yourself collecting your child, arrangements have to be made with Pre-School staff as to who will be collecting, and preferably, a password given. Please try not to be late in collecting your child, as this can be upsetting for the child, and also these are busy times to set up for the afternoon and to clear up at the end of a day. Obviously, in the event of an emergency, children are always cared for by staff until collection is possible, but please contact Nursery to let us know that there will be a delay, if at all possible.
- An important reminder that children's safety on the nursery drive and the entrance foyer remains the responsibility of parents/carers both on arrival and departure.
- Can we also remind parents and carers not to leave children unattended in vehicles for short periods whilst dropping off/picking up, even close to the gates of nursery.

## Useful Resources

A useful document "What to expect, when?", published by 4Children supported by Department for Education, is guidance for parents about children's learning & development in EYFS and is available to download [https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/4Children\\_Parents\\_Guide\\_2015\\_WEB.pdf](https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/4Children_Parents_Guide_2015_WEB.pdf)

We thought you might also find the following website useful and interesting when looking for activities to do with your children at home:

- The Imagination Tree - <http://theimaginationtree.com>

And these websites have interesting information for the health of your children:

- St John's Ambulance baby CPR - <http://www.sja.org.uk/sja/first-aid-advice/first-aid-for-parents.aspx>

- ICON - information to support parents with crying babies and prevent abusive head trauma - <https://iconcope.org/>

I'm sure you all wish to keep your children safe whilst they are using the internet. Below is a link to the NSPCC online safety tool to support you and safeguard your children

- NSPCC Online Safety - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety>

## Fees

For any parents not receiving grant who are paying fees, could you please ensure that any money due is paid **on your child's first session of the week**. Fees are payable weekly or monthly in advance if you prefer.

Online bank transfers are preferred where possible for payment of fees, snack money and uniform. Our bank details are as follows:

Account Name: Bethel Chapel  
Account No: 00757698  
Sort Code: 30-93-75



Where this is not possible, please use the blue envelopes available from staff for payment of cash.

## Information sharing

If your child has done anything exciting during the week-end or holidays or has achieved a particular milestone, we would like to know so that we can talk about such an event with them. Please add your photos and anecdotes to their Tapestry account to give a complete overview of your child's learning experiences at Pre-School and at home, on outings and holidays

If you would like to submit an application form for another child, you can do so via our website -

<https://www.bethelchapel.net/little-lambs-application/>

## Music Time

We plan to continue this enhancement to our provision provided by a specialist music teacher at a charge of £2 per session. We will let you know via the weekly notices how many sessions will be accessed this half term.



## Healthy Snacks at Café

We would like to remind parents of **early education funded children ONLY** that a contribution of £2 a week is payable for a lovely variety of daily healthy snacks and fruit.

We would be grateful if the amounts payable (**£12 for 5th Sept - 20th Oct and £14 for 1st Nov - 14th Dec, including Christmas Party**) could be paid during the first two weeks of each half-term.

Please note, unlike schools, we do not receive a free fruit allowance from the government.



## Coronavirus Update

Whilst all legal Government restrictions have now been lifted, the Government advice issued to settings is as follows:

"Anyone who tests positive - whether they paid for a test, or it was free - will be advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for five days, which is when they are most infectious."

"Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home. They can go back to nursery, school or college when they feel well enough, and the fever has gone."

We continue to request that if your child is unwell with any symptoms that may link to COVID 19, help us by keeping them at home until they are well.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

## Sickness, Holidays & other absences



PLEASE make sure that you let us know as early as possible that day if your child will not be attending Pre-School for any reason.

This is an important requirement for all parents and carers.

If you have booked a holiday or a day out, please also let us know in advance by completing a Holiday Form - now also available online -

<https://www.bethelchapel.net/little-lambs-attendance/>

## Trips & Specials this term

<p><b>Allotment Trips</b> W/C 26th September Morning children</p>	<p><b>Harvest Special</b> Friday 30th September Morning children Please send tinned food donations</p>	<p><b>Autumn Nature Walk</b> Wollescote Park Monday 10th October AM &amp; PM children &amp; parents</p>
	<p><b>Parents Discussions</b> Including 2 year check meetings Thursday 10th November Appointments from 4pm onwards to be booked closer to date</p>	
<p><b>Little Lambs Nativity</b> Friday 9th December Morning children</p>	<p><b>Breakfast with Santa</b> Morning children Wednesday 14th December End of Term — last am session</p>	<p><b>Celebrating Christmas</b> Afternoon children Wednesday 14th December End of Term — last pm session</p>



# Little Lambs Pre-School Centre

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## On-Line & Reviews

Our weekly notices, Prospectus, full Policy Document, this newsletter and lots of other useful documents are all available online - <https://www.bethelchapel.net/little-lambs/>

Please check your emails on Fridays for important notices for the following week, especially if you are not able to come into Pre-School on a daily basis due to work commitments etc.

Can parents help us to boost our online presence by reviewing Little Lambs on Google please? You can access this by searching for Little Lambs Pre-School on Google then clicking on 'Write a Review'. Thanks for your help.

We would appreciate any parents who have Facebook to follow us as we share updates on nursery and please leave a recommendation if you are able - <https://www.facebook.com/Lambs1991>

## Change of Address / Contact Details

We will be sending out weekly notices and any necessary correspondence to your email address. Please make sure we have your correct email address and that you check your emails regularly to ensure you don't miss anything!!

## School Admissions - September 2023

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2023, you must complete an application either online at [www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions) or by completing a copy of the application form (available from 1st October) by 15th January 2023. Please contact Dudley Schools Admissions Service if you require any help - 01384 814223 or [www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions)

## Emergency Evacuation Policy

A reminder that should we ever need to evacuate nursery for any reason, our policy will be to take all the children to Wollescote Primary School in Drummond Road to keep them safe and then to contact parents/carers to pick them up from there.

## Letters and Important Notices

Please can any parent/carer who wishes to receive a second copy of any correspondence for a parent/carer living outside the family home please see Emma or Jen.

If you wish such correspondence to be emailed out, please ensure that we have the correct email address.



## Dogs



Whilst we love dogs, some children don't, so could you please refrain from bringing them on site. Thank you



## Informal Parents Evening -

Thursday 10th November, 4pm onwards

This is an informal evening where you can discuss the progress of your child and we encourage you as parents to come along and find out a little more about our Pre-School life and day to day activities here at Little Lambs. If you wish to discuss your child's progress with their Key Person, to avoid unnecessary delays, it would be easier if you booked a **10 minute appointment slot**. We would welcome and value any ideas, views and suggestions you may have and are happy to answer any questions arising, as we work together for the benefit of our children.

## Afternoon Children's Progress Check

As part of the EYFS curriculum, it is a requirement that all children aged between 24–36 months have a progress check. To comply with this we will arrange a 20 minute appointment during the Informal Parent Evening to discuss your child's progress. Individual appointments can be made with your child's Key Person nearer the time.

## Uniform

A lot of new uniform has been purchased, so please be sure that it is clearly labelled either in **indelible ink or with an iron or sew on tag**.

Could you also please write your child's name in their coats and shoes, as many children have the same style, size and width-fitting shoes at this age and confusion can easily arise, especially during role-play situations.



## Birthdays

Children's birthdays are celebrated within the sessions at Little Lambs. We would encourage parents not to bring in sweets and cakes as we feel this puts people under unnecessary pressure to buy for all children at an already expensive time. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

## And Finally .....

Autumn is fast approaching and as at Thursday 8th Sept it is just 108 sleeps 'til Santa!!



Looking forward to enjoying the Autumn Term here at Little Lambs  
*Working together for the best for our children.*

**AA** This newsletter is available in larger print on request