

JANUARY 2020



Happy New Year and welcome to our January newsletter...

We hope you have all had a lovely time! This half term will be another busy one with lots of experiences and opportunities for the children over the next 6 weeks before half term.

A last reminder for families of children who will be starting Primary School in September 2019 - applications to admissions close on 15th January.

A direct link is available on our Nursery Face Book page; you can scan the QR code below to be taken directly to it.



We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to Valencia, Ezra and Jenson who are celebrating their birthdays this month. Have a lovely time celebrating ☺

More new friends are joining us this month... a very warm welcome to Louie-John, Andrew, Isla, Hope, Jordan-James, Caleb, Edward, Logan, Liam-Junior, Bennie and Georgia who are coming to our Nursery. We hope you will all be very happy here at Aclet Close Nursery - exciting times ahead!

Working with partners in the local community/charity work

We had a very busy month for trips, visits and charity work in December including:

- ~ Swimming sessions at **Woodhouse Close Leisure Centre** - the children continue to make fantastic progress. (Sessions will restart on Wednesday 22nd January)
- ~ A trip to **Hall Hill Farm** to see Santa - the talking reindeer was our favourite - we hope you enjoyed the experience as much as we did! It was quite an adventure travelling up to Lanchester in our 2 big 70 seater **Garnetts coaches!**
- ~ Our Nativity was held at **Woodhouse Close Church** - the children really did us proud (as they always do!) and as usual, we had lots of support from our families - we don't think we've ever had so many in our audience. Our photograph was in the **Northern Echo** newspaper over the Christmas break - we have a copy in the Nursery entrance if any of you would like to have a look.
- ~ This year we held our Christmas party in school. The children loved the entertainer, **Professor Nicompoop** - we don't think we have heard so many belly laughs! A big thank you to **Clockwork Education**, who made a donation towards the children's party food.
- ~ Working with artist, Laura and the **Bishop Auckland Town Team** to decorate the shop window of 'Trimmers Hairdressing' in Bishop Auckland with the Alternativity story as part of their Advent Windows. The children were really good at listening to the story and singing some Christmas songs at the official opening.
- ~ We received very positive feedback from our Christmas photos, taken by local photographer, **Val Fairhurst**.

Your child's safety is very important to us...

Please avoid driving down the approach to the school as this puts other children and parents at risk and also be mindful of our neighbours. Thank you for your continuing support.

Lisa Jenkins Head Teacher

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School Fund...

On behalf of staff and children, I would like to say a very big 'thank you' for your voluntary donations to our School Fund. You have paid for the children's healthy daily snacks and also subsidised our trip to see Santa at Hall Hill and the Christmas Party entertainer, games prizes and party food. You also bought refreshments for our Christmas stay and play sessions and Nativity (our 'left over' mince pies were donated to the foodbank at Woodhouse Close Church) and the children's Christmas gifts.

We received some commission from the sales of our Christmas photographs which boosted school funds a little but it is now somewhat depleted!

If you haven't donated for a while or are one of our newer families, in the main Nursery entrance there is a Mickey Mouse money box and black folder to tick off your child's name when you have made your weekly £1 donation. Thank you in advance.

School uniform...

is optional and available from Cre8tive (12 Peel Street, Bishop Auckland. Tel: 664097). You can call in the shop at your own convenience throughout the year. Business cards are available from the office. Our school colours are red or navy blue.

Stay and Play sessions...

Our next stay and play sessions will take place on the afternoon of **Tuesday 17th March** and the morning of **Thursday 19th March**.

More details to follow!

Dates for your diary

- **Monday 13th January:** Toddler group restarts (12.45pm - 2.15pm, £1 per child over 1 year old)
- **Wednesday 15th January:** Deadline for applications for children starting Primary School in September 2020. (see info on front page of this newsletter)
- **Thursday 16th January:** Tree planting in our Nursery grounds
- **Wednesday 22nd January:** Swimming lessons restart
- **Thursday 23rd January:** Mini first aid for our older children
- **Friday 14th February:** School breaks up for half term
- **Monday 24th February:** School reopens after half term
- **Thursday 5th March:** World Book Day
- **Monday 9th March onwards:** Parent/Carer consultations - an opportunity to meet with your child's key worker to find out about their progress
- **Monday 23rd March: Morning:** Zoo Lab in school
- **Friday 3rd April:** School breaks up for Easter break
- **Monday 20th April:** School reopens after Easter
- **Friday 8th May:** School closed - Bank Holiday
- **Friday 22nd May:** Schools breaks up for half term
- **Monday 1st June:** School reopens
- **Friday 17th July:** School closes for Summer break

GOVERNOR NEWS...

Governors and staff are delighted to officially welcome Mrs Thompson (who has been working with us since September) and Mrs Barker, Teaching Assistants to the Aclet Close Nursery School team.

Thank you for giving both such a warm welcome.

During the Spring term Governors will be continuing their monitoring roles, looking at how Early Years Pupil Premium funding is being spent and completing the School's Financial Value Standard as well as reviewing how we support our children with Special Educational Needs including reviewing our 'Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs' Policy.

Can you help?

We would really value some parent/carers input when reviewing our 'Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs' policy and guidelines. Please speak to Mrs Jenkins if you would like to get involved.

Lisa Jenkins Head Teacher