



## Very Important

Please remember whoever picks up your child **MUST** be in your child's 'own bubble'

**Spring 21 Funding Forms out this week** - We **MUST** see your child's birth certificate to verify their date of birth & proof of address to verify your postcode. Please take a photograph and send it to Pam via WhatsApp.

## Newsletter November/December 2020

### Open as usual during lockdown

We are open as usual during this next lockdown. Please still keep us informed of any illnesses - more details below.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who are wearing masks for visits and pick up and drop off times. In order to keep everyone safe, staff will now be wearing a face covering when they are at the door.

### Half term Fundraiser Event

I have really enjoyed seeing your pictures of all the things you have done; sponsored walks, bounces, Lego builds, cycles. You have all been amazing 😊

Thank you for all the money you have fundraised or donated.

We have started the 'natural' part of our garden and the children are already enjoying it. Outdoor play is so important at the moment. THANK YOU!!!



### SNACK TIME

We have resumed providing a healthy snack and have started to do simple cooking with the children.

**Please still remember your child's named drink bottle.**

Snack is an optional extra and we ask for a



contribution of £1 per day per day towards the cost of this. Snack time is very important for the children as it encourages them to try new foods, use utensils and cups and to socialise together. If you do not wish your child to receive the healthy snack, please provide a healthy snack and drink for them in a named container.

Please continue to bring in a named drink and lunchbox if your child is staying for lunch.

### Illnesses and Covid19

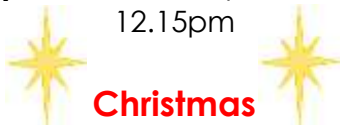
**Please tell us if you or your family are showing any Covid19 signs and need to isolate.**

We are endeavouring to do all we can to keep all the children, families and staff safe from the coronavirus infection. We are following all the guidelines given to us from Essex County Council, Early Years Alliance and Department of Education. However, the virus is in the community and there may be times when we will have to close at short notice due to a positive test result. This is only done when we are instructed to do so by Public Health England. Please be aware that this is a possibility in all pre-schools and schools and try to have a Plan B for childcare if you are at work. Remember we could all have to isolate if there is a positive result if we are told to do so. We also have many staff with children at school and if we have a staff shortage due to families needing to isolate from those schools, this could also lead to us having to close the pre-school as we will have insufficient staff to open.

Of course, we hope this will not happen but we have already heard of settings where this has occurred. We thank you for your co-operation and understanding in advance.

## Dates

**Last Day of term:** Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December  
12.15pm



**Christmas**

We will continue with our festive fun as much as we can so if you have any old or spare decorations we could use for craft that would really help us.



**Healthy Lunch boxes please – only one sweet treat.**

**NO peanut butter as we have children with nut allergies**



**PLIMSOLS**



**Please can you bring your child into pre-school WEARING their 'preschool' shoes.** We are trying to keep staff from touching the children's shoes unless necessary. We trust that you will keep these shoes only for Little Doves and not wear them outside of our location.

## 30 hour Extended Funding Parents

Please apply **NOW** if you want to claim from January 2021. Registration cannot be back dated if you miss the deadline.

### Facebook

Please remember to log in to our closed Facebook page to see photos of what the children have been doing. If you are not a member please send a friend request to "Friends of Little Doves".

## January 2021 sessions

Please make sure that Pam knows any changes to your child's hours in January especially if your child is newly funded. There is some flexibility and we want to give priority to our existing children before allocating the remaining spaces to the new children starting.

## Little Doves T-shirts/Polo shirts

Thank you for all the orders. Please can you pay now for your child's uniform. If you are paying via bank please can you add 'Uniform' to the reference as this helps my administrator identify the payment.

**Pam has t-shirts in stock – please ask.**

## Very Important

**It is very important that you let us know if anyone different is picking up your child. Please fill in the correct Collection form and tell whoever is on the door who will put it in the Sign-in register. Also remember to tell the person picking up your child the password.**

## Suggested voluntary donation

In order to continue to provide all the educational materials we normally use alongside all the extra precautions that need to take place in the current climate we have had to continue to keep the voluntary contributions towards consumables at £1.25 per day. Last half term the amount not paid for these contributions was nearly £450. This will have a huge impact on what we are able to provide as a pre-school. We do realise this is a tricky time for many families but even if you can contribute half of the suggested donation it would make a big difference to us. **Every penny helps.**

## Let's praise and celebrate our children ...'WOW'

Please remember to praise and celebrate the successes of your child. After assessing the value to your child, the fact that paper has a low transmission of Coronavirus and that we are all in a 'bubble', we will be using contact books again so please consider where you store this when at home. If you do not want to use the book then we understand and will continue with the spare pages.

**With love & prayers, Pam & the Little Doves team**