

Little Doves telephone no
07756 029105



On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you ever so much for all your thoughtful Christmas gifts – we all felt very appreciated 😊😊😊

Newsletter January 2024

Welcome back!

And a very warm welcome to all the new children, parents and carers. Everyone is settling in nicely and we are looking forward to all we have planned for this term. Pam would like to thank you all for your kind words at the end of last term – it was a very sad family time and your words of encouragement really helped her.

Please remember Easy Fundraising for all your online shopping!!

Click on the link [here](#) to go to Easyfundraising website.

- Create an account – select Little Doves
- Search for eligible online retailers
- Click "shop now" to take you to the retailer's website

Even if it's only a few pennies – it all adds up 😊

Please also support our online quiz night on Friday 16th February at 8pm £5 per person. Brentwood Rotary is very kindly hosting this for Little Doves. Teams of 8 – please ask friends and family to support this fundraising event.

Contact Pam for more details.

CHANGE OF BANK ACCOUNT

NB – please note change of bank account details on your invoice. Please DO NOT make a payment into our old account – this account has been closed.

Bad Weather

In the event of bad weather Pam will text or email you as early as possible in the morning if the pre-school is closed. The road leading to the hall and car park has to be safe. Please make sure we have up to date contact details.

September 2024 sessions

As you know we are very full. Please make sure we have the correct hours for your child for September.

Please remember to label ALL your child's belongings; coats, bags, drink bottles lunches, wellies etc!!!

VERY IMPORTANT

**Packed lunches for children & staff
NO peanut butter or nut related spreads such as Nutella or almond pastes.
We have several children with severe allergies and so there is a very strict
NO NUT policy.**



Wonky Wednesdays coming up

We open at 9am and finish at 12 noon.
February 14th
March 13th

Advance Note

Navestock Village Hall is used as a polling station and so Little Doves will have to close for the day on the next polling day.

Voluntary Donations

If anyone can donate the extra item to us from "2 for 3" or "buy 1 get 1 free" offers that would be great. We need:
handwash, kitchen rolls, wet wipes, tissues, bin liners, play sand, Zoflora disinfectant, anti-bac spray

PLEASE REMEMBER our latest pickup/child leaving time is 2.45pm

PLEASE REMEMBER to slice cucumber, tomatoes & grapes lengthways & in quarters to prevent choking

Please NO toys from home – only bring in items related to the show and tell topic.

Children born between 1st April and 31st Aug are funded in Sept. Children born between 1st Sept and 31st Dec are funded in Jan. **30 hour Extended Funding** - parents please apply **NOW** if you want to claim from **April 2024**. To those paying childcare, please check with **CHILDCARE CHOICES WEBSITE** to see if you are eligible to any tax benefits

Newly funded children MUST bring in a copy of their birth certificate & proof of address to show Pam

Important - Pam needs to see your child's red book for immunisations
SOME DOCUMENTS ARE STILL NEEDED FROM EXISTING CHILDREN!!!
PLEASE BRING THESE IN ASAP!!

Term Dates 2023/2024

Half-term: **Mon 19th Feb to Fri 23rd Feb**
Spring term finishes: **Tuesday 26th March**
Summer term starts: **Tuesday 16th April**
Half term: **Mon 28th May to Fri 31st May**
Summer term finishes: **Thursday 18th July**

Funding for eligible working parents of 2 year olds

From 2 January 2024, parents of 2 year olds are able to apply for a code for 15 hours of funded childcare, starting from 1 April 2024. The DfE recommends that parents start applying for their codes from mid-January. The following website gives details on what entitlements parents may be able to receive:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Parents can apply for the entitlements via the following link

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working>

Please let Pam know if you have any holidays booked.



Very Important

You **MUST** 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 collecting the 'password'

We love having parent/grandparent helpers...

If you can help, just for a few hours, we would love you to come in. The children love having a mummy, daddy, granny or grandad helper joining in with craft, playing or reading stories. Please see Pam for more details.

Topics for this half term

Fairy tales - Three Little Pigs and Gingerbread man.

Items needed for dressing up

Small adult/large child clothes that are sparkly and fun like hats, shoes, bangles, gloves, jackets.

Illnesses

Every child reacts differently to viruses, coughs & colds - if your child needs cuddling and Calpol they are unlikely to cope with the activities and busyness of Little Doves – please keep them home until they feel better.

Facebook

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"

We will be using this lots to convey information to parents/carers
Information also available on our website.



With love & prayers, Pam & the Little Doves team