

## IMPORTANT

We still need more parents to remember to put their child's name in their clothes e.g. coats and jackets – staff waste so much time sorting out whose coat is whose!!



## Newsletter September 2020

### 'Wonky' Wednesday

This is not happening at the moment.

We will let you know when this is re-established and we will let you know the dates that will affect you.

### Welcome back!

It has been lovely to welcome you all back and see how much the children have changed.

Well done to all parents who have been so very brave with the 'settling in' process at the moment and dropping off their child at the door. The children have amazed us. Everyone is settling in nicely and we are looking forward to all we have planned for this term. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have worn masks for visits when required.

### Leavers Celebration Picnic



It was wonderful to welcome back our leavers to collect their folders at the Meet n Greet at St Paul's

church garden on 1<sup>st</sup> September. We kept our distance and met in bubbles. It was great to catch up with everyone and lovely to meet Julie, the new vicar at St Paul's.

**Healthy Lunch boxes please.**  
**NO peanut butter as we have children with nut allergies**



**Please can you remember a separate named snack and drink for your child for snack time. Otherwise the children want to eat their lunch at snack time.**

### PLIMSOLS – CHANGE TO THE SYSTEM

Thank you everyone for bringing in all the different things we need in this current climate. We are constantly reviewing the situation with regard to how things work best and we are going to make a change to the system for the children's shoes.



**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.

### 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

**Half term:** Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October  
**Last Day of term:** Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December

### Tempest Photographer

We have found a way to make this work in the current climate and so we will let you know as soon as we have a confirmed date.

### A big 'Thank you' to Navestock Village Hall

They have been very flexible trying to help us keep safe and clean. We have a lot more cleaning and steaming to do before and after each session and this takes so much more time.   
Thank you

### Emergency Contact Details

New children will be receiving these forms this week – please complete and return ASAP.

Please also keep us up to date if your child has any allergies.

Well done to all staff who completed lots of e- learning whilst we were on lockdown. Everything is a big help.

Emma is starting another SEND qualification in October.

### Little Doves T-shirts/Polo shirts

T-shirts £7.00. Polo shirts £9.50.  
Sweatshirts £10.

Drawstring bags with logo and name £8  
They come in various colours & sizes.  
We have some sizes and colours in stock or you can place an order.  
Please see Pam for more info.

### 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 write in the Sign-in register. Also remember to tell the person picking up your child the password.

### Invoices and suggested voluntary donation out this week

The voluntary contributions are reduced this half term as, due to the current climate, we are not allowed to have our external education visitors and we are not able to provide a healthy snack. The voluntary contribution towards consumables has been increased to enable us 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 are working on a way to re-introduce snack and cooking from after half term.

### Let's praise and celebrate our children

Please remember to praise and celebrate the successes of your child. Please tell us about anything wonderful your child has done. We will keep your child's contact book at the pre-school for the time being - we may issue you with some special pages you can fill in at home and return to the pre-school so that we can stick them in.

### Newly Funded Children Sept 2020

We **MUST** see your child's birth certificate to verify their date of birth.

Essex County Council also require us to verify the postcode where your child lives and therefore please bring in some form of identification to enable us to do this. e.g. driving licence, utilities bill.

### 30 hour Extended Funding Parents

Please remember to re-confirm your eligibility each term.

If you are a new parent claiming 30 hours ask for a 'permission to check' form

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". We are using this lots to convey information to parents /carers.

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