



## Little Learners Newsletter 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017

# EXCITING NEWS!

Thanks to the continued success of our Little Learners Nursery since opening in September 2015, we are pleased to share with you that North Somerset Council has successfully bid for capital funding from the Department of Education to expand our Early Years provision. This has only recently been announced by the government and we are still in the preliminary stages, applying for all necessary consents and permissions etc. We will continue to share with you project updates. It is likely that the preschool will cater for 40 children per session across two classrooms. The building will be located at the end of the car park and constructed in a similar way to the school, to compliment the current school building. Our current Little Learners bookings will of course remain as they are, but we are excited to offer additional places to more families with the anticipated opening of September 2017.

At present, we continue to welcome 'Expression of Interest' forms from parents who may be looking for Early Years provision from September 2017. If you know someone who is looking for a place for September please do ask them to contact us and we can take their details to ensure they are included in the news and updates of our project too.

### What is your view?

We are committed to ongoing improvement and development at St Anne's Primary School and it is important to us that we include feedback from our families. We would like to invite parents and carers to take part in this short survey to help inform our 2017 action plans.



<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BKJNFGW>

### Activity trail

Has your Little Learner shown you our trim trail? Please do pop and have a look when you have a moment; it is located at the opposite side of the building to Nursery. Our Little Learners enjoy using it regularly and are building confidence every week.

### Dance classes

Every Tuesday from 10<sup>th</sup> January – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2017.  
9.00am-9.30am

Group one will be taking part in their final dance session with Lois on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017, they have been learning to move their bodies to music and to focus on how sound and movement develop from feelings and ideas. Lois has developed the bespoke programme to complement our space learning theme and our Little Learners have really progressed in every session.

Group two will commence their course of sessions on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017 for three weeks.

### NSPCC Number Day

Along with the other classes in school we will be taking part in this special event on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017. We will be taking part in lots of number activities throughout the day and invite children to wear an item of clothing with a number/numbers on. Our nominated song of the day will be 10 green bottles. We invite parents to make an optional donation to the NSPCC.



### Tapestry

We hope parents can now access their child's Tapestry account, please do email us if you are still unable to locate the email containing your activation link.



There is a slight delay between our Nursery Crew adding observations and them appearing on your child's account.

Does your Little Learner also attend a child minder? Or another preschool? Children who attend 'dual placement' or two different settings need to have their learning and development shared between the two settings. The best and most accurate way for us to achieve this is by allowing the partner setting to access your child's Tapestry account. We are able to set them up as a user who can make comments, add their own observations and see your child's next steps of development.

We will be contacting those families who we know attend more than one setting to ask their permission for an additional user to be added to their child's account. If you have any questions at all or would like to inform us that your child attends another setting too, please drop us an email.

### Winter germs

Unfortunately it is that time of year where many people catch colds, coughs and sickness bugs. Our children and Nursery Crew here at Little Learners have taken their turns to be poorly but we do hope the worst is over. Please do continue to keep your Little Learner at home if they are unwell and let us know they won't be attending.

Any children affected by sickness and diarrhoea will not be able to return to Nursery until they have been 48 hours clear of any symptoms. We appreciate your understanding as we try to minimise the spread of germs as much as possible. Here are the NHS guidelines for treating colds and high temperatures for your information:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Cold-common/Pages/Commoncoldinchildren.aspx>

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/pregnancy-and-baby/Pages/treating-high-temperature-children.aspx>

## Chinese New Year

Next week (Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday 27<sup>th</sup>) we will be celebrating Chinese New Year at Nursery. This will involve learning about Chinese dragons and making our own for a Chinese dragon parade, designing our own money envelopes to share good luck, tasting prawn crackers at snack time and making noodle soup in our role play kitchen. We are sure our Little Learners will enjoy learning about these different cultural traditions.



## Social Media

As ever please follow us on Twitter and Facebook to keep up to date with our Little Learners

## Car park

Please can we remind all parents/carers and those who use the school carpark to drop off and collect their child to be mindful of pedestrians and keep their speed to a minimum. Thank you.

## Government funding available for your Little Learner

*Early Years Pupil Premium funding is paid direct to the setting to improve your child's learning experience*

Early Years Pupil Premium funding is available to children from families who meet certain criteria.

3 and 4 year olds in state funded early education will attract EYPP funding if they meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided they're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit
- they are currently being looked after by a local authority in England or Wales
- they have left care in England or Wales through:
  - an adoption
  - a special guardianship order
  - a child arrangement order

To check your eligibility there is a simple form we need to send to North Somerset. Children need 're-checking' after their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday so if your child is already in receipt of this funding we will ask you to complete the form again. We will distribute forms to those families who have already indicated to us they may meet these criteria. If you would like a form or any more information at all, please speak to Amy.

## North Somerset Speech & Language Drop-In sessions

Have you got questions about your child's speech or language development? Pop in and see an expert for free advice and guidance from North Somerset Council.

Sessions will be running at Oldmixon Family Centre, The Healthy Living Centre, Ashcombe Children's Centre and Weston Children's Centre, to run alongside Stay & Play sessions whenever possible. There will be an appointment system to avoid parents having a potentially lengthy wait. Parents can now call the relevant Children's Centre to book a 20 minute slot.

**Tuesday 24th January 2017** 1pm -3pm For All Healthy Living Centre  
(Call 01934 426881 to book a slot)

**Wednesday 1st February 2017** 10am – 12pm Ashcombe Children's Centre  
(Call 01934 426380 to book a slot)

## Learning Review meetings

We are holding a set of learning review meetings on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February. These are initially aimed at our new cohort of children who did not attend our November sessions. Priority will be given to new families, however, if you would like to see your child's key person during these sessions please do make an appointment.

We hope that our interactive learning diary system is helpful in seeing how your Little Learner is progressing. However, our Nursery Crew will be available during the following periods for 10 minute appointments should you wish to have an informal chat.

Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	
Katie Hutchings	4.00pm-6.00pm
Emily Hodder	4.00pm-6.00pm
Amy Marsh	4.00pm-6.00pm

Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	
Abby Selwood	4.00pm-6.30pm
Anna Blasdale	4.00pm-6.30pm

Emily Poole is on holiday during that week, so she will be available later in the month.

Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2017	
Emily Poole	4.00pm-6.00pm

Please use the clipboard located in the parent's area of Nursery to sign up.

