

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to offer a warm welcome to all children and their families, at the start of the new academic year. May I take this opportunity to thank all the parents for following the guidelines when dropping their children off. We think all the children have settled in very well and we hope the new communication books are helping ease your worries.

News and updates follow.

### **Pre-school**

Children who have started their second year with us are settling very well into their new routines. We are also in the process of welcoming all the new pre-school children and their parents, who are joining us this term for the first time. Those children who are attending for the longer pre-school day are enjoying spending their lunchtimes with us too. It is great to see the children enjoying the healthy contents of their lunch boxes, whilst benefiting from the additional social opportunity this brings.

### **Lunchboxes**

Please can we remind parents that if you provide your children with grapes that they are cut in half lengthways as some whole grapes can be a choking hazard. We currently have several children with allergies or food intolerances. Can I please ask that no child brings food containing nuts.

Can all parents and grandparents remember the drop off and pick up times. The morning session starts at 9am and ends at 11.55am. The afternoon session starts at 12.00pm and ends at 3.00pm prompt. After school ends at 6pm, Friday is 5.40pm. Late collections will be charged.

Please can you ensure **all** of your children's belongings are **named** and collected at the end of each session.



### **School Applications**

If your child is due to start school in September 2021, you can now apply online at [wirral.gov.uk](http://wirral.gov.uk). The deadline date for all applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Preschool will finish for half term on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and will reopen on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. There is no pre-school on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

After half term each child will receive a book bag and each week they can choose a book to read at home. Please keep the books for as long as your child is interested in them.

### **Charity Event**

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October we will be taking part in 'Hello Yellow' in support of World Mental Health day and fundraising for the charity Young Minds. All staff and children are invited to wear something yellow. We are currently unable to accept any cash donations, so if you wish to contribute to this worthy cause, please go to the following link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/raeburncharity>

## **Out of School**

Due to current social distancing rules we currently collect the after school children from inside the school building.

If your child is absent from school for any reason, and are also due to attend a before or after school session with us please ring to let us know, so we can update our registers for the day. Thank-you.

## **Holiday Club**

At Half term the holiday club will run from Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October until Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October. The holiday club is available for children three years old until eleven years eleven months. Please be aware that all holiday club fees must be paid in advance to secure your sessions.



## **Parking**

I would like to remind you of the need for considerate parking in the area around the entrance to Little Owls and also opposite our entrance. May I ask you also to personally request all other persons dropping off or collecting your child, this may include grandparents, other relatives, and childminders, not to park where our children and parents and also school age children have their views obscured by parked cars. Illegal parking puts us all at risk.



## **Coronavirus**

In the event there is a complete local lockdown, we have been asked by the local authority to gather information about essential keyworkers. Attached to this letter is a form for all parents to complete regarding their occupations. Can I ask that all parents complete and return this form, ASAP.

Thank you all for your ongoing support, as always if you would like to speak to me about any matter related to the care of your child, please ring.

Yours sincerely

*Liz  
Keelan*