



Summer Newsletter 2019

A message from our chair.....

Where has the year gone? It has flown by and the Little Meadow team have achieved so much. From improving the environment with the incredible murals, to balancing the books expertly so that every child has the best experience possible, it really has been a successful year. A huge thank you to all the amazing staff who make Little Meadow a truly special place to learn and grow. There has even been time to cleverly redesign the space outside the building into a miniature car park! To all the volunteers that have helped over the year, I thank you.

Out of School Club has grown in strength and that is down to the excellent service that the team offer. We are sure there will be even more demand in September – it's a good problem to have!

Martin Irvine recently left his position as treasurer after a whopping 13 years. 'Thank you' doesn't come near to saying how grateful we all are for your effort and dedication. Sadly, the AGM was poorly attended, and I remind you that without your direct support, Little Meadow could close. I urge you to attend the meeting next year to give Sharon and her team the support it needs.

With every penny that Little Meadow receives going towards your child's experience, financial pressures are never far from the minds of staff. The education sector is under serious financial strain, especially pre-schools. Even the simple fundraisers like the penny pot make a huge difference so please continue your great work!

Best of luck to the little people who are moving on to primary school – parents and carers have the tissues ready!

We also are saying our own goodbye to Alice who will be leaving us at the end of the year to pastures new and we all wish her every success with her next venture.

Have a lovely summer break,

*Dan Port
Chair of Little Meadow*

Rising 5's.....

Transition is going extremely well. The children have mastered the art of changing into PE Kits, eaten their packed lunch in the school hall and experienced a busy school playground. We have had visits from reception class teachers throughout the term who are very happy with the progress the children are making.

We are looking forward to joining you on our trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park. Uptake on the trip has been disappointing this year, which means the setting has had to heavily subsidise the cost of the coach. For those that are going we know it is always such a special day with memories made for both parents and children. For those that are not coming with us please remember that there will be no Rising 5 session on this day.

Our last session is Wednesday 17th July, to which all children are invited to attend. If your child does not normally attend on a Wednesday and you would like them attend on this day, please let us know and see Clare in the office to see if a session fee will apply.

Rising 3's.....

All our younger children have now settled well into life at Little Meadow. During this term we have been introducing some of the routines they will become used to in Rising 5's in September, including welcoming members of staff, choosing activities and wake and shake. You should have or shortly will have received your letters regarding your child's key worker for September and what group they are in. All staff can be contacted via e-mail and there is no such thing as a silly question.

Important dates.....

The summer term for Rising 5's will finish on **Wednesday 17th July**, and Rising 3's on **Tuesday 16th July**. Term starts again in September for our new Rising 5's on **Tuesday 3rd September** at 9.00am. Our website www.littlemeadowgroup.co.uk contains all our term dates and other information, including copies of latest letters and a link to our facebook feed.

Photographer.....

Following the Rising 5's leavers photographs being taken we have had a number of parents ask about sibling photos. We have managed to secure the photographer for Sunday 17th November where you can book a slot with Ian to have any family photographs taken. Details will follow nearer the time so keep your eyes peeled on our facebook page or leave your details with Clare in the office to contact you to book a time.

A few things to remember...



Please send your child in with their blue book bag every day. It is an essential means of communication with you and also good practice for when the children go to school.

Names should be in all removable clothes, all coats, hats and scarves, and especially in any playgroup jumpers or cardigans. If writing it in, please regularly check that it hasn't faded due to washing.

Please inform the office of any changes to mobile telephone numbers or contact details that we need to know.

If you send your child into setting in wellies, please provide a change of footwear as it can be quite uncomfortable to spend the whole session in them.

Please try not to use your mobile phones in the playground. The children come out with lots of exciting things to tell you.

We have recently purchased a new mobile whiteboard and are using this to communicate with parents, look out for it in the playground. There is also a space available for any feedback you may wish to give us, questions or comments. However as always, if anything is urgent please pop in and speak to a member of staff directly. Our door is always open.