



## **Fir Trees Newsletter Autumn Term One**

**Opens Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

Dear Parents

I hope you have all had a fantastic summer break. Please bring in pictures and photographs of all the great things you have done together and I will put them onto our display wall. The children love showing pictures on our 'WOW Wall' to their friends during free play.

This term we will be concentrating on helping all the children settle back into nursery after the summer break. We will also be welcoming new children to Fir Trees and I know our existing children will be very excited about showing them around.

In a few weeks we will be using all our senses to investigate all the wonderful colours and flavours that Autumn brings us. We will be cooking using different vegetables and foods. Amazingly our broad beans are still producing a harvest. The children have really enjoyed fresh broad beans for their snack at nursery, which might be something to try at home.

We have been busy refreshing the nursery over the summer and now have new carpets, freshly painted walls, extended play space in the outdoor barn and a fabulous giant sandpit. The children are going to love transporting sand and different mediums around the new sandpit. The summer break is a great time to update and refresh everything.

### **Fund Raising**

A very big thank you to everyone who brought in their Smarties tubes full of money!! We have raised almost £1000 towards Emma's operation and subsequent physiotherapy treatment.

THANK YOU!!!!

### **Knitting**

Do you know anyone who loves to knit?

It would be lovely to develop our story and rhyme bags with some knitted characters.

Does anyone have spare wool at home?

### **Family Photographs**

We have a photographer coming to Fir Trees on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am onwards**. The photographs can be whole family, siblings and individual shots. The photographer turns our Yellow Room into a studio which is private and other families waiting are not able to see you being photographed. The pictures are very modern, with the children in all sorts of interesting poses. I am assured they will be ready for you to give as Christmas presents. Our photographer is very well priced compared to visiting a studio and very good value. Some of our families still return and attend the photograph session after

leaving nursery for school. We have a list with 10 minute slots at the nursery. Please add your name if you would like to attend.

### **Phonics, Letters and Sounds**

We will be doing lots of activities with our July 2019 school leavers to help them with their school transitions. A high proportion of the schools we feed into follow the 'Letters and Sounds' phonics programme and we will be doing lots of rhyming activities, listening to sounds in words and the environment. We will introduce some of the 'Oxford Reading Tree' characters to the children and investigate our Oxford Reading Tree resources.

This complements the Jolly Phonics programme which our younger children participate in and helps the children understand how sounds form words. We always put a copy of the letter sound we are thinking about in the porch for you to take home.

### **Uniform Orders**

I will be collecting all the new uniform orders at the start of this term. The deadline to let us know what you would like is Friday 14th September. I will leave a book with all the uniform options near the entrance for you to look at.

### **Government Funding**

If you are eligible for 30 hours funding from January 2019, please obtain your code before December 2018. [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

If you already have your 30 hour code, please use the website above to renew your code before the start of every term. If the code is not renewed you may lose 15 funded hours per week for that term.

**Reopen: Monday 3rd September**

**Photographs: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

**Uniform orders need to be in for Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**Do you have any wool or enjoy knitting?**

**Alison Piper**

**Nursery Owner / Manager**