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AUTUMN  
ISSUE

# Newsletter

AUTUMN TERM 2023

## Welcome

We are so proud of the way the children are coming into school independently, managing coats and lunch boxes and registering their names on the Acorn buses. Some manage a bright good morning which we always encourage. There is always a teacher to welcome you at the door, help your child and pass on any information to key staff. Please also remember that messages can be left on our answerphone or through our [enquiries@acornnurseryschool.com](mailto:enquiries@acornnurseryschool.com) e-mail and time can always be made for a chat if you have worries or concerns.

## Afternoon School

Welcome to all the new children and parents who have joined us this term in our Afternoon School. It is also such a joy to have the younger siblings of past pupils and renew our relationships with their parents, as well as children of past pupils.

(As an aside we have at present, 14 children in the school whose parents were pupils themselves!)

The children have settled well with Mrs Sayers and her assistants, making new friends, becoming independent and enjoying musical and dance activities with Ms Campbell and Mrs Seymour, depending on which afternoons they attend.





## Tapestry

Tapestry is an effective vehicle for keeping you involved in your child's learning. We hope that through Tapestry you feel part of the nursery experience and that you can share the effort and processes involved in the children's achievements. We love to share any 'wow' moments from home also so please post them to us. The children can talk about these in our group time, giving them a sense of self worth and building good self esteem. We also use Tapestry to communicate upcoming events and notices, so do please check.

We also communicate through our Facebook page weekly, our Website, and our White board which is outside the school.



## Early Reading and Writing Experiences

We are often asked about our approach to early reading and writing experiences.

Primarily our focus is at this stage is in encouraging listening skills through games and small group work. Reading stories at home is the best way to support your child's development.

Our Foundation Stage children are being given the opportunity to recognise print in the environment, develop their fine motor skills and expand their mark making. Next term we will follow the Read Write Inc programme of introducing children to letter sounds. In the final term we have a lending library of pre readers giving you the chance to share with your child this exciting start to literature.

## Wellcomm

**Identifying children needing speech and language support, which can make a crucial difference to their confidence and attainment.**

Along with some other settings and schools we have The Wellcomm toolkit to use at Acorn. It is for all children in early years settings as a quick and fun check that their understanding of what is being said (receptive language) and how they communicate verbally (expressive language) is within the expectations of their ages. The kit comes with Big Book of Ideas to support language development, attention and listening skills in our classroom. We are using this programme already.

The website [www.gl-assessment.co.uk/wellcomm](http://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/wellcomm) has more detailed information.

## Shoes

If you are buying a new pair of shoes for your child could we encourage you to choose a pair that they are able to manage themselves? N.B No lace up boots or buckles! Please support our work at school in encouraging your child to be as independent as possible, putting on their own shoes, boots and coat. This does make so much difference for all the activities that we do at Acorn. Also, could your child have a waterproof coat with hood and bring it every day?

We will be sending home the blue bags at Half Term to replace with more 'seasonal items'

## Registrations

Please do not forget to register younger siblings if you would like them to follow on to Acorn. We have had an unprecedented number of applications recently and are full for the next 2 years.

## Reminder

If your child has a stomach upset or diarrhoea please keep them away from nursery until 48 hours after the last 'incident'. Also heavy coughs and colds are better kept at home!

## Parking and Road Safety

We are grateful to Jersey Water for allowing us to park on their land.

Please can we enforce that this is a private area and no child should be allowed to climb the banks or interfere in any way with the fencing. Please do not obstruct the entrance to the work area for Jersey Water and do drive right around , anti clockwise, parking after the last car.

## Durrell Tortoise

We are very grateful to a wonderful parent who has kindly donated one of the Durrell Tortoises – 'Keep Going, Keep Growing'. The children welcomed his arrival on Wednesday 4th October with great enthusiasm. Thank you!

## Christmas music

We are planning our Christmas Show for our Morning School children – "Christmas in the Forest" with a dress rehearsal on Wednesday 29th November which will be filmed and 2 performances:

Wednesday 6th December 11.15 (Yellows and Red parents) and Thursday 7th December 11.15 (Blue and Green parents). Please only 2 adults for each child.

We are circulating the link for the music via e mail:  
[www.acornnurseryschool.com/christmas-music-morning-school/](http://www.acornnurseryschool.com/christmas-music-morning-school/)

Afternoon Red Group children will be holding a Christmas Music session on Thursday 14th December at 2.30. This is for you to join in with us to celebrate altogether. Please maximum of 2 adults per child as this will be busy! [www.acornnurseryschool.com/afternoon-school-music-autumn/](http://www.acornnurseryschool.com/afternoon-school-music-autumn/)

We plan to raise money to support our school charity which is Kivukoni School in Kenya through sales of recordings of our Morning School show and raffling a Christmas Cake ( or 3) but first we need to find a baker! Is there any lovely Acorn 'friend' who would bake us a special Christmas Cake – any sort of fabulous decorations encouraged, that we could raffle in December?

Do see the website [www.kivukoni.co.ke](http://www.kivukoni.co.ke) for information about the wonderful school we support in Kenya. The school was opened and is run by Vicky Scarborough's niece, Lucy Oliff, so we have direct knowledge of where our money goes and how necessary the funds are.

## Nasal Flu Spray

You should now have returned your form giving permission (or not) for your child to be included in the Nasal Flu Vaccination on Wednesday 1st November. This is open for all children, even if it is not 'your afternoon'!

## Congratulations to Mrs Marie Scheub

Marie has nearly completed her Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Workforce, working part time at Highlands and at Acorn.

If you are interested in gaining this very valuable qualification do contact Mrs Scarborough, who is an Assessor and the training can be done at Acorn.

We welcome Miss Natalie Salter as she joins us for the term, as part of her degree in Early childhood Studies.

## Wanted

Any unused diaries, notebooks, or stationery to enhance the writing experience of our children. Also any unused paint trays and rollers you may have tucked away for that DIY job that never happened!

## Dates for your diary

### Autumn Term 2023

Tuesday 5th Sept – Friday 15th Dec  
International Air Display Thursday 14th Sept  
Half Term – Monday 23rd Oct – Friday 27th Oct

### Spring Term 2024

Tuesday 9th January– Tuesday 26th March  
Half Term – Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February

### Summer Term 2024

Tuesday 16th April – Thursday 11th July miday  
Half Term – Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May  
Monday 6th May + Thursday 9th May Public holidays



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