



NEWSLETTER

November 2024

Welcome back everyone to the second half of the Autumn term! We have already had such a lot of fun this term and have lots of great things planned for this half too.

Last half term we looked at "Harvest", "On the Farm", "Autumn" and "Halloween". The children loved looking at the change of season and were so proud to bring in their Autumn treasure bags to show all their friends. We were thrilled to have the Reverend Joe Simmons in to visit the children and give a talk about Harvest, the children were very knowledgeable and knew all the answers to his questions!

Unfortunately, we had a lot of illness with Hand, foot and mouth last half term. Thankfully we are now over that and the children are all back up to full strength! Please remember to let us know if your child is not going to be in for any reason. You can phone or just drop us a quick email.

Our annual Halloween Disco was a great success! Thank you to everyone who came along and to anyone that purchased raffle tickets or had a go on the "Name the Ghost"/"Guess how many sweets in a jar". With all your efforts we made a fabulous £581.50 for Preschool. Thank you to our committee and staff for organising and running this great event.

This half term we will be looking at the following themes: Diwali and bonfire night, Nursery rhymes and Remembrance day, Kindness and Children in Need, Light and Dark and Space.....and lastly CHRISTMAS! We will be holding our annual Nativity and Christmas celebration on Friday 20th December at 2pm at St John the Baptist church in Ditton. Please join us at Preschool at 1.45pm to walk with us to the church. You are free to take your child home either from the church or walk back with us to collect your child's things from preschool and take them from there.

Our Christmas Fair is taking place at Ditton Village Hall on Sunday 24th November 12pm-4pm. This was a fantastic event last year with lots of great stalls so PLEASE come and support us and come and look around. We will also have Father Christmas visiting between 12.30-3pm where you can visit him in his grotto and receive a gift. Please contact us to book a slot to avoid disappointment. Our Christmas Fair is our biggest fundraiser of the year so please help us sell as many raffle tickets as possible! We are a long way off what we sold last year so please ask for some at the door and sell to as many work colleagues, family or friends as you can!

For those children who are eligible for funding towards their hours from January, please remember to apply online. For those who are already receiving funding, please make sure to renew your eligibility code each term. You should have an email reminding you of this but please visit the childcare choices website for more information.

Applications for all children starting primary school in September 2025 are now open! Please visit the council website to apply for your child's place before it closes on 15th January 2025

<https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/apply-to-start-or-transfer-school/starting-infant-or-primary-school/>

Diary Dates

Start of term: Monday 4th November

Christmas Fair: Sunday 24th November 12-4pm

Nativity and Christmas celebration: Friday 20th Dec 2pm

End of term: Friday 20th December

PD day: Monday 6th January

Start of Spring Term: Tuesday 7th January

**Childcare
Choices**

Supporting families
with childcare costs

childcarechoices.gov.uk



 HM Government

If you would like to find out about further help and support the Parenting Team offer please email

Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk

or call us on 01743 250950

All our services are free of charge to Shropshire Council residents.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



SOLIHULL APPROACH

PARENTING HELP AND SUPPORT LINE

available

Monday to Thursday from 9.30am to 4.30pm

and

Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm

You can contact the Parenting Help and Support Line by calling

01743 250950

Parenthood can be extremely rewarding and enjoyable. It can also be demanding, frustrating and exhausting. The Parenting Team is here to help and support parents and carers to raise healthy, well-rounded children in a loving and stable environment.

Do you have any questions around your child's development and parenting?

Why not call our Parenting Help and Support Line where one of our trained Parenting Practitioners will be ready to listen.

(Please note the Parenting Help and Support Line will not operate on Bank Holidays)

If you have concerns about a child's safety or well-being, please call

First Point of Contact 0345 678 9021

bedtime stories

THE WHAT'S, WHY'S, & HOW'S FOR PARENTS

What

Bedtime stories have become a thing of the past in many homes. Tucking your child in bed at night and spending 20 minutes reading with him or her can have lifelong effects on your child—emotionally and academically.



Why

- Bond with your child
- Establish a love for reading
- Improve your child's vocabulary
- Calm and soothe your child to prepare them for sleep
- Make lifelong memories
- Expose your child to a variety of books
- Show your child that reading is important

how

- Set aside 20 minutes each night to read to and with your child
- Read old favorites and new finds from the library
- Make it fun— read in the dark with a flashlight
- Take turns— you read some pages, and let your child read some pages
- Read both picture books and chapter books



JUST REED BLOG.COM — Ashley Reed

Too Much Tech?

Watch for these signs



Complaints about being bored without screens



Problems with sleep, school, or face-to-face interaction



Harsh resistance to screen time limits

Are you seeing these signs?

It's time to talk about tech.

TalkHeart2Heart.org



Little Explorers CHRISTMAS FAIR

NOVEMBER 24TH • 12-4PM

DITTON PRIORS VILLAGE HALL

'NOT TO BE MISSED'
COME AND SEE SANTA
IN HIS AMAZING
GROTTO!
£5 PER CHILD.
BOOK NOW TO SECURE
A SLOT!



JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS STALLS.
SANTA'S GROTTO. RAFFLE. REFRESHMENTS.
TOMBOLA. FACE PAINTING. MUSIC
AND DELICIOUS TREATS!

For more information contact :
fundraising.littleexplorers@gmail.com, or ring 01746 712506

