



# NEWSLETTER

## November 2023

Welcome back to everyone and we hope you have had a lovely half term. We are now on the second half of Autumn term and on the countdown to (dare I say it??) CHRISTMAS!! There will be lots of fun things happening over the next 6 weeks so please keep an eye out for information.

Last half term the children got to use their new outdoor area and I think it's safe to say they LOVE IT! It makes us so proud and happy to see the children running around and exploring the large space. We are still in the process of adding things to the area, but it is looking great, and the children are benefiting every day, come rain or shine, from being outside more.

We also introduced our daily board with information of what the children get up to each day, daily Facebook posts with photos, and our nappy changing diaries. This was a response to the parent and carer questionnaire that was completed at the end of the summer term. We hope you are enjoying seeing and hearing more about what your children get up to daily. Please feel free to give any feedback.

We hope you enjoyed our "Share a Book" session. It was so lovely to have such a great turn out! The children loved having you all there to hear their favourite story. We will be holding another session this half term.

Thank you to everyone who came to our Halloween Disco. We hope the children enjoyed it as much as we did. We are yet to finalise costs but will have made just over £200 to spend on the children which is fantastic!

The children started visiting the library bus too. To see such happy faces as they walked onto the bus and saw all those books was amazing! They love going and looking at all the books and puzzles. They also get to have a chat with the librarian and locals that are also visiting. Please let us know if you would like a book ordering for yourself, or child, and we can collect it for you. Remember that we do have books available to borrow in our entrance area too.

This half of term has started with a very busy week looking at bonfire night, light and dark, Diwali and Remembrance Day. The children have enjoyed using our dark dens to explore lights and colour and will end the week with an Indian buffet for Diwali. We will be taking part in Nursery Rhyme week next, followed by "How to keep ourselves safe" the week after for Road Safety week. We will then look at Space for a week before we then enter CHRISTMAS FUN!

Please help us by selling as many raffle tickets as possible for our Christmas Hampers (which are looking FAB!), and please spread the word about our Christmas Fair on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November at Ditton Priors Village Hall 12-4pm. We have 20 fantastic stalls, a pizza trailer, crafts for the children and SANTA! (please remember to book a slot to guarantee a gift!).

And finally, please remember we have a lovely website that has lots of information on including term and diary dates. Please take a look: <https://www.littleexplorers-preschool.co.uk/>

### Diary Dates

Share a book afternoon: TBC

Stay and Play morning: TBC

Nativity: TBC

Christmas Holidays: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan

PD Days: Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan, Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Jan & Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Jan

### Little Explorers contacts

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Email: [littleexplorers.ditton@gmail.com](mailto:littleexplorers.ditton@gmail.com)

Website: [www.littleexplorers-preschool.co.uk](http://www.littleexplorers-preschool.co.uk)



# CHRISTMAS FAIR

"Come and see Santa in his Grotto £3 per child Book now to secure a slot"

At  
**Ditton Priors Village Hall**  
on  
**Sunday 19th November**  
**12 - 4pm**

For more info call us  
**01746 712506**

Wonderful stalls, refreshments, kids activities, tombola, amazing raffle prizes and Santa's Grotto

PROCEEDS  
TO LITTLE EXPLORERS PRE-SCHOOL  
CHARITY NO:1044412

If you would like to find out about other services the Parenting Team offers please email  
[Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk)  
or call us on 01743 250950



## PARENTING HELP AND SUPPORT LINE

available  
Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 5.00pm  
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 support parents and carers to raise healthy, well-rounded children in a loving and stable environment.  
Do you have any questions around child 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 Bank Holidays and between Christmas & New Year)

If you have concerns about a child's safety or well-being, please call  
First Point of Contact 0345 678 9021



[www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)  
General Enquiries: 0345 678 9000

## Online safety: top tips

Going online is a huge part of most young people's lives so it's important to talk to them about online safety. Here's our tips to get you started.



### Chat to them about what they like to do online

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to talk to them and have regular conversations so that online safety is part of everyday discussion. Ask them open-ended questions like "What's your favourite game or app to play on?"

- Listen to what they have to say and show an interest. They could give you a demo of their favourite app or show you their favourite YouTube or TikTok account.
- They will probably be able to teach you things you don't know! This will also give you an opportunity to chat about any safety settings they might already have in place.
- Regular conversations with your child will encourage them to come to you if they ever need support or advice.

### Talk about who they are in contact with online

There are lots of different ways that children can talk to people online – messaging apps, on social media, and less obvious ways such as chat on online games. Talk to your child about who they are talking to and what they are sharing with them.

- Use settings to help limit who can contact your child.
- Remind your child that they shouldn't share personal information with people they don't know online.
- Let your child know they can come to you if any conversation makes them feel uncomfortable.

Make sure to talk to your child first before implementing any new settings and explain to them how they help to keep them safe.

### Help manage what they see and do online

Parental controls and privacy settings can help you manage how your child spends time online and help to keep them safe.

- Device settings – manage things like location sharing, screen time and in-app purchases. Most tech and gaming companies have dedicated pages to support with setting these up.
- App or game settings – in-app tools that can help to keep your child's account private and manage who they're talking to. You can normally find information on these in account settings or directly on the platforms website.
- Mobile or network provider settings – help to manage browsing access and stop your child from visiting inappropriate sites or downloading apps that aren't suitable. Contact your mobile or broadband provider for more information about setting this up.

### Remember it's ok to ask for help!

Remember you don't have to be an online safety expert – that's our job! We're here to help, with resources and advice to help support you and your child.

If your child asks you a question you don't know the answer to, or speaks to you about a negative experience they had online, here are some of things you could do:

- Visit the NSPCC online safety hub: [nspcc.org.uk/online-safety](http://nspcc.org.uk/online-safety)
- Call the NSPCC helpline 0800 800 5000 to speak to an advisor
- Ask another parent
- Speak to your child's teacher
- If your child needs more support, they can contact Childline: [childline.org.uk](http://childline.org.uk)



Phonological awareness is a really important skill to help kids learn the basics of reading 😊 Here are some super easy ways we can build phonological awareness into our everyday routines 🎵

TINY HAPPY PEOPLE



Identifying words that rhyme

What exactly is  
**PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS?**

"dog" "happy"

Clapping out the number of syllables in a word

