

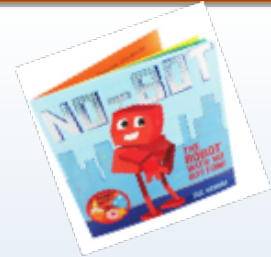
Welcome to the start of a new term and a new year.

We would like to warmly welcome Evie and Bibi to Little Fingers and hope that they both enjoy their time with us, as much as we will enjoy having them.

TOPIC NEWS:

This half term we will begin with the topic 'No-Bot Robot'.

We will be sharing the story, then looking at different shapes. The children will make their own robots, shape puzzles, hunt the shape games, and village walks to see if they can notice different shapes in the environment, robot dancing and much more. Alongside all the robot fun, the children will be looking at their own bodies and how they work.



We will also be celebrating Chinese New Year with the children. We will be looking at some of the Chinese traditions, clothing and food. Look out for our dancing dragon that the children will be making.

Lastly alongside this topic the children will be taking part in the 'Great British Bird watch' so lots of walks to the forest to see what birds can be spotted.

To finish the half term our next topic will be 'Town mouse and country mouse'. During this topic we hope to look at different houses that children live in all over the country, sights that you may see in towns, cities and the countryside as well as different sounds.

Home Learning

Home learning is a great way for the pre-school to work with you as parents to give your child a consistent approach to learning – it's not about the battle of the dreaded 'Homework' it's about having fun and sharing experiences as a family.

Take part in the activities in Letter Leo's bag

Take a walk in your local area and look at all the different shapes that you can see – we would love to see some photos too!

25/01/2020 – take 10 mins to look into your garden and count how many birds pay you a visit. If you can name them that would be fantastic (we will be giving out sheets nearer the time).

DIARY DATES

Great British
Birdwatch
Saturday 25 January
Half term
Monday 17 February -
Friday 21 February (inc)
2YO Progress Check
Review
Wednesday 25 March
Thursday 26 March
End of term
Friday 3 April

LETTER LEO – will be introducing a phonic sound each week to the children. The children will have lots of fun with 'SILLY SOUP' to help them learn their phonics. Letter Leo will also be coming home with the children with a bag full of fun things to do and share.

COMMITTEE NEWS.....

The minutes from our last committee meeting are available from Olivia Duckney. Please email adminoffice.lfpreschool@btinternet.com to request a copy. The date and time for our next meeting is Wednesday 15th January 2020 @ 8PM at The Gospel Hall. All welcome.

How Can you help?

Could we please ask that you collect your recyclables so we can make a robot family. Small boxes (no bigger than cereal boxes), tubes, bottle lids etc.

We are planning on giving our home area a bit of a makeover and any of the following items would be gratefully received-

- Small table top lamp or large free standing lamp
- Telephones (old style would be fantastic)
- House plants – real or plastic
- Kitchen utensils – wooden or metal
- Small pots and pans
- Tea pot
- Tea cups and saucers
- Wooden fruit bowl

Parents as Partners

I hope that the information provides you with more of an inside in to what we have planned for your child/children this half term.

While the activities have a planned development outcome, we know that the children often change the plans to meet their interests. This is welcomed and encouraged and then used to help us plan the activities next time.

A big part of the day will be observing the children in their own initiated learning with the staff encouraging, enhancing, observing, recording and then using the information gathered to plan future topics and activities.

While the above is planning for the setting please be reminded that your child's key carer will be planning individual 'next steps' for you child/children.

Finally, **'Help us grow, let us know board'**. Help us to critically evaluate ourselves.

This term we are introducing a board where parents can let us know what we do really well and what we could do better. This will help us to revive our practices, make changes or even feel pleased with our achievements. This will give you the opportunity to help us run the pre-school.

The type of feedback / comments we are looking for are...

'that painting activity was great, little harry didn't stop talking about it'

'happy place to be'

'Miss A really supported me with bedtime routines'

'I don't feel my child is making progress'

'equipment is looking tired'

We would like comments that you would like to share. Miss Leanne will be sending home labels next week, with the children. There will be a box situated by the lunchboxes where you can post your comments/feedback. You can also be anonymous, if you wish.

Thank you for your continued support - The Little Fingers Team