

## NEWSLETTER

### Spring term part 1

Welcome back, we hope you had a lovely Christmas and would like to wish you all a very happy new year. Also we are delighted to announce that Katie has gave birth to a gorgeous baby girl called Neve over the festive break and both mum and baby are doing really well. Were sure she will pop by soon to meet everyone.

Covering Katie's maternity cover is Lisa pictured here. Lisa has been a childminder for many years and is a mum to 2 grown up children and a Nanny to 5 so brings a wealth of knowledge and understanding to the group.

Lisa will be working Monday and Thursday and will be taking on some key children so we ask that you bear with us as we transition some children across, and we will keep you updated of any changes that will take place.



### Payments

Over the last few terms we have struggled to keep on top of payments and invoices, meaning at the end of term a large amount has remained outstanding, which then means I have had to remind people and I don't want to be that nagging person. From January, we will be asking for payments for additional non funded hours to be paid in full by the end of the first week or alternatively paid on a weekly basis on the first session your child attends, this should make it easier for all involved and help us ensure we don't have large amounts outstanding at the end of term. If everyone follows this we can then concentrate on offering an amazing learning environment. Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

### We are learning about ...

We are focusing on our favourite books this half term, and we will be doing lots of activities and exploring many messy activities alongside this. We are starting off with the tiger who came to tea, having a big tea party and dressing up as tigers. We will be doing the bear hunt in the next few weeks also and going on an adventure through the swishy swashy grass so keep an eye out for exciting things coming up.

### Look out for what's coming soon

The government have been piloting a new scheme where they are offering 30 hours funding to children of eligible working parents, the pilot scheme has been a success and the government are planning to roll out nationwide from September 2017. As a childcare setting this has some potential issues that will need addressing before we can offer it but if we can get it right then this is fantastic news, and can only improve the outcomes for children. Of course for working parents the extra funded hours will be little lighter on the pocket, releasing one less thing to worry about.

We have started planning so we can be ready, looking at the best methods and solutions to make Sunshine sufficient. However we need your help, can we please ask you to complete the annual parent questionnaire attached to this newsletter and return it ASAP which will have some specific questions. This feedback will be invaluable in making sure we get the offer right for you our parents. If you have any questions then please feel free to speak to Kyah who will be happy to help.

### Birthdays

This half term is a special time for lots of children, we have Maddie turning 4 and Mason.C, Sonny, Leo, Benji and Ollie turning 3, we would like to wish all these children a very happy birthday, we hope you all have a lovely day.

