

## NEWSLETTER

9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

This week we the children have been using various resources to build towers, ramps and models. We have been encouraging them to revisit their work and to assess it to see if they can improve or alter it. This type of play allows them to develop their deeper thinking as well as their communication, co-operation and teamworking skills.

Following a discussion with a group of children about dustbin lorries, we turned our attention to recycling, we talked about what we can and can't recycle and why we should recycle as much as possible. We then looked at the possible uses for some of the different food packaging items in preschool.

We have also been enjoying some physical fun building obstacle courses and throwing paper aeroplanes in the outdoor area.



## Preschool AGM – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October

The preschool AGM will take place on Tuesday 20th October at 8.30pm via zoom. This is where current committee members step down and new committee members get voted in.

Thank you to those of you who have expressed an interest in joining the committee. In order for preschool to be able to remain open WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS. The committee must be made up of a minimum of five members, of which 60% need to be current parents. Please consider joining up, you could be the person to make a real difference to the future of the preschool.

For more information about joining the committee please visit <https://www.longbuckbypreschool.com/committee>, speak to a member of the preschool staff or email [longbuckbypreschool@outlook.com](mailto:longbuckbypreschool@outlook.com).

Please note that all volunteers will need to undertake an enhanced DBS check.

## Applying for school Places for September 2021

Applications for Primary school places can now be made for 2021 Admissions.

Parents/carers of children who have their 4th birthday between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 need to apply for their school place by 5pm on Friday 15 January 2021;

Parents/carers can register online to apply for a school place through the Northamptonshire County Council website. They will then be sent an email with a link which they must click on to enter the portal in order to make their application. Parents/carers must press submit once their application is complete and if they do go back into their application at any time after that (up to the closing date), they must ensure they submit again. Every year applicants who forget to resubmit are distraught as this often costs them a place at their preferred school as the application is not processed.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid Pandemic, we are unable to hold drop-in sessions this year so parents are asked to contact the School Admissions team for advice and assistance by either calling: 0300 126 1000 or emailing: [admissions@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk](mailto:admissions@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk)

Summer Born application deferral requests

Parents/carers of Summer Born Children may be contacting schools to enquire about their children starting school in Reception in the September following the date they should have started school according to their age group, i.e. September 2022 start, rather than 2021.

As a reminder of the role of admission authorities, please refer to paragraphs 2.17 - 2.17 B of the School Admission Code. Specifically, 2.17A states that:

2.17 Admission authorities must make decisions on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent/carer's views; information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. They must also take into account the views of the head teacher of the school concerned. When informing a parent/carer of their decision on the year group the child should be admitted to, the admission authority must set out clearly the reasons for their decision.

Advice on the procedures followed are on the Northamptonshire County Council website

If you need further information or advice on any of the above, please contact:

Jan Baines (School Admissions Manager):  
jbaines@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk  
T: 01604 367026 / 07872 148424 or

Jo Savage (Admissions Supervisor) jsavage@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk  
T: 07545 422174

### **Introducing..... Morris the Monkey by Mary**



This is Morris the monkey. I'm sure the children have spoken about him. He helps me to lead 'Listening and Sounding' activities with the children by making it fun for them to learn how to sound out initial letters in words and also to learn to use their ears to discriminate the vast amount of sounds in the world that we live in. Each week two letters of the alphabet are chosen for the children to familiarise themselves with, and sound out. These are accompanied by pictures and objects that Morris has found to show them and make learning fun. Morris will also be setting a weekly at home activity on Tapestry each Monday.

Sometimes Morris can be cheeky and throw his clean pants at the children, just to keep their focus, and they giggle whilst Morris and I help the children to recognise

and name basic colours. He gives them self-confidence to volunteer and speak out in a large group activity.

## Fundraising

### Virtual Pumpkin Carving Competition

We have a SPOOKTACULAR virtual event for you this October. Why not join in with our Pumpkin Carving Competition. Entries cost just £2 with all proceeds going to Long Buckby Preschool.

We have four categories:

• 0-4 • 5-7 • 8-12 • 13+

So no matter your age we would love to see you get creative and send us in your photos.

Please send your name and age along with a picture of you and your pumpkin or a picture of the pumpkin on its own (photos will be uploaded to our Facebook page), to [longbuckbypreschool@outlook.com](mailto:longbuckbypreschool@outlook.com) or via Facebook Messenger for no later than 8pm on 31st October. Your entry money should be placed in a sealed envelope with your name and age clearly marked on the front and posted through the preschool front door. Entries made without payment will not be accepted.

Pictures will be posted on to our Facebook page on 1st November and the pictures with the most likes in each category will be the winner.

You are more than welcome to share your picture, however, make clear to your friends and family that they will need to like them on our original post in order for the like to be counted.

Votes will end on Thursday 5 November and we will announce the lucky winners of each category on Friday 6 November.

The winners will each get a prize and certificate.

### Joules Sale

We still have a limited number of tickets still available for the Joules Sale in November. Entrance tickets for this event are £5.00 for a 90 minute shopping experience. There will be **lots** of Joules items, including women's, men's and children's, plus accessories all at reduced prices. All items are samples, returns, imperfect, previous season or bulk stock. Please support this event if you are able as all entrance money raised goes directly to benefit the children at preschool.

## Dates for the Diary

### Term 1

|                          |                                       |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Thu 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct | Preschool Closes                      |
| Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct | Teacher Training Day                  |
| Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct | Entries close for pumpkin competition |

### Term 2

|                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov  | Preschool Opens     |
| Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov | Joules Seconds Sale |
| Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec | Preschool Closes    |

### Term 3

|                          |                                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan | Preschool Opens                   |
| Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan | Final day for school applications |
| Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb | Preschool Closes                  |

### Term 4

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb | Preschool Opens  |
| Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar | Preschool Closes |

### Term 5

|                            |                                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> April | Preschool Opens                 |
| Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> April | Teacher Training Day            |
| Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> May    | Preschool Closed – Bank Holiday |
| Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> May   | Preschool Closes                |

### Term 6

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> June   | Preschool Opens  |
| Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> July | Preschool Closes |