

Dates for your diary

Thursday 10 th October	Photos	8am - noon from 8am (pre-schoolers with older siblings). 10-12 (Children who don't normally attend on Thursdays)
Monday 28 th October		Half term week
Wednesday 13 th November		Closed - Staff training day
Tuesday 19 th November	7.45pm	AGM - Little Owls Trustees
Friday 13 th December	1.00-2.45	Children's Christmas party

Welcome!

In July we said goodbye to our older children as they moved on to school. This term we have welcomed 17 new children, with more already booked in for the coming terms. Our new children are settling well and we hope they enjoy their time at Little Owls. If you have any queries or concerns about anything at all, please just let us know and we'll try to help. With so many children already booked in, there is very limited availability to swap or increase sessions between now and July 2020.

New families

If you know any families in Boxted with young children who are likely to want a place at Little Owls in the next year or so, please ask them to get in touch with us and put their name on our lists. We are currently having to organise our session lists a year ahead. We always try to prioritise Boxted children, but we can only guarantee them places if we know about them.

Reminder - Fees increase

As detailed in a separate letter, fees will be increasing from 1st January 2020 to:

2 year old	£5.50 per hour
3-4 year olds	£5.00 per hour.
Unbooked extra sessions	
2 year olds	£6.00 per hour
3-4 year olds	£5.50 per hour

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who organised and supported our fundraising events over the past year. Fundraising events including the Christmas hamper raffle, children's fun run and summer fete raised a fantastic total of £2218. Over the last year we have used money from fundraising to improve what we provide in the garden. We have also been looking into the possibility of a canopy to give the garden an area which is fully useable come rain or shine - money raised from fundraising is the only way we can afford this kind of work. So a huge thank you to the Trustees and their fundraising group for all their hard work, and to all who supported the events.

Reminders

As always, please make sure your child has suitable indoor and outdoor clothing.

Wellies are useful throughout the year for water or muddy play, and children should have appropriate outdoor clothes for the weather, eg coats, hats and gloves and as the weather gets colder. We try to keep track of children's clothes and wellies, but it's a much easier job if they're all labelled! Please supply spare indoor clothing - the children often get wet playing with water.

Please label bags and lunch boxes clearly on the outside. If you prefer not to write on the outside of the bag, a tied-on label or a name just inside the opening is an alternative.

Healthy eating and recycling!

Please remember that as a setting we promote both healthy eating and good recycling practices. Whilst we don't dictate what you put in your children's lunchboxes, please bear in mind that we prefer that they do not have sweets or chocolate and that items such as crisps are limited. A whole pack of crisps is quite a lot for a 3 year old!

We encourage children to recycle within preschool, but obviously the best way to reduce the waste is for there to be as little packaging as possible in the first place. If you can avoid buying and sending in prepackaged food such as cheese strings and fruit strings we would be very grateful. A slice of cheese or a piece of fruit is much healthier and better for the planet.