



Little Lambs Pre-School Centre Parents Termly Newsletter - Spring 2025

Welcome!



We extend a special welcome to all new children and parents as we start our Spring term.



We hope all our Little Lambs had a lovely Christmas.

A special welcome to the new children and parents who start with us this term, and we pray your time with us will be very enjoyable.

The first few weeks are very much a settling in process and if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to talk to us.

We would like to thank you for your good wishes,

cards and presents that were given to us for Christmas - your kindness is very much appreciated.

We pray that 2025 will be a healthy and happy one for all our Little Lambs families.

We look forward to spending a wonderful Spring Term with all of our Little Lambs and have lots of activities planned to help your children to learn and develop.

Take care and stay safe.

Jen and the Team

Little Lambs
Pre-School Centre

Issue 53

Spring Term 2025

Inside this issue:

Change of address	2
Collection of Children	2
Email Addresses	2
Healthy Snacks	2
Parking	2
Spring Focus	2
Uniform	2
Useful Resources	2&3
Arrival & Collection Times	3
Birthdays	3
CCTV	3
Coronavirus	3
Emergency Evacuation Policy	3
Fees	3
Important Reminders	3
Sickness & Holidays	3
Toys	3
Advance Dates for next term	4
On Line and Reviews	4
Information Sharing	4
Letters, notices and reports	4
Parents Evenings	4
Snow Watch	4
And Finally	4

Important Dates for your Diary

Friday 14th Feb	Closed - INSET Day
Mon 17th - Fri 21st Feb incl.	Half Term Holiday
Monday 24th Feb	Closed - INSET Day
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Thursday 6th March	Parents Evening for afternoon children's parents and 2 year check meetings - times to be confirmed
Monday 17th March Tuesday 18th March	Photographer planned in nursery
Thursday 20th March	Parents Evening for morning children's parents - times TBC
Thursday 27th March Friday 28th March	Afternoon Children's Mother's Day Parent Pop-in Morning Children's Mother's Day Service
Wednesday 9th April	Last sessions at Lambs this term for am & pm children
Thursday 10th April	10 - 11am Easter Sponsored Event & Easter Bonnet Parade at Wollescote Park
Thu 10th - Fri 25th Apr incl.	Easter Holidays
Mon 28th April Tue 29th April	Summer Term Starts—staff Summer Term Starts—children

Please see continuation of advanced dates on the back page



We begin our term by focusing on our favourite stories starting with *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* and exploring Winter! In the second half of the term we will look at "How to keep ourselves healthy", Spring and celebrating Easter. Much of our planning follows children's ideas on a daily basis and their numeracy and literacy skills are enhanced by their individual interests. At Little Lambs we see the outdoors as an important part of our learning environment. **With this in mind, it is essential that all children wear suitable clothing/shoes each day and bring a warm, waterproof coat.** Outdoors is full of interesting and fascinating experiences where deep-level learning can take place on a daily basis.



Healthy Snacks at Café Time

We would like to remind parents of **Early Education-funded children ONLY** that a contribution of £2.50 a week is payable for a lovely variety of daily healthy snacks and fruit. Please see noticeboard or online notices for daily menus.

We would be grateful if the amounts payable (**£15.00 for this half term**) could be paid during the next two weeks.

Please note, unlike schools, we do not receive a free fruit allowance from the government.

Change of Address & Contact Numbers

It is VERY IMPORTANT that you let us know immediately of any change of address, telephone, email address or mobile contact details. Forms are available on request for you to complete.

Parking

A reminder to parents about parking at our busiest times of day on arrival and departure.

PLEASE DO NOT double park or park on pavements. This is not only dangerous, but could result in the Police being called and cars being ticketed.

In addition, please do not block the entrances to the Church car park or nursery drive.

Collection of Children

- Please note that if it is not yourself collecting your child, arrangements have to be made with Pre-School staff as to who will be collecting, and preferably, a password given. Please try not to be late in collecting your child, as this can be upsetting for the child, and also these are busy times to set up for the afternoon and to clear up at the end of a day. Obviously, in the event of an emergency, children are always cared for by staff until collection is possible, but please contact Nursery to let us know that there will be a delay, if at all possible.
- An important reminder that children's safety on the nursery drive remains the responsibility of parents/carers both on arrival and departure.
- Can we also remind parents and carers not to leave children unattended in vehicles for short periods whilst dropping off/picking up, even close to the gates of nursery.
- Please do not block the gates to the Lambs or Church entrances at any time as these are both in constant use.

Uniform

A lot of new uniform has been purchased, so please be sure that it is clearly labelled either in indelible ink or with an iron or sew on tag.

Could you also please write your child's name in their coats and shoes, as many children have the same style, size and width-fitting shoes at this age and confusion can easily arise, especially during role-play situations.



Useful Resources 1

A useful document "What to expect, when?", published by 4Children supported by Department for Education, is guidance for parents about children's learning & development in EYFS and is available to download www.bethelchapel.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/4Children_ParentsGuide_2015_WEB.pdf

Also available by following the below link is The Early Years Foundation Stage 2021—a guide for parents and carers, published by ParentZone, which will give you further information

<https://connectchildcare.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/The-Early-Years-Foundation-Stage-EYFS-2021-A-guide-for-parents-and-carers-2.pdf>

We thought you might also find the following website useful and interesting when looking for activities to do with your children at home:

- The Imagination Tree - <http://theimaginationtree.com>

Email Addresses

We will be sending out any necessary correspondence to your email address. Please make sure we have your correct email address and that you check your emails regularly to ensure you don't miss anything!! Please add us to your list of safe email addresses so that they do not go into your junk or spam folder.

Fees

For any parents not receiving grant who are paying fees, could you please ensure that any money due is paid **on your child's first session of the week. Fees are payable weekly or monthly in advance if you prefer.**

Online bank transfers are preferred where possible for payment of fees, snack money and uniform. Our bank details are as follows:

Account Name: Bethel Chapel
Account No: 00757698
Sort Code: 30-93-75



Where this is not possible, please use the blue envelopes available from staff for payment of cash.

Birthdays

Children's birthdays are celebrated within the sessions at Little Lambs. We would encourage parents **not** to bring in sweets and cakes as we feel this puts people under unnecessary pressure to buy for all children at an already expensive time. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Emergency Evacuation Policy

A reminder that should we ever need to evacuate nursery for any reason, our policy will be to take all the children to Wollescote Primary School in Drummond Road to keep them safe and then to contact parents/ carers to pick them up from there.

Sickness, Holidays & other absences

PLEASE make sure that you let us know as early as possible that day if your child will not be attending Pre-School for any reason.

This is an important requirement for all parents and carers.



CCTV

We have external CCTV cameras in place around Bethel Chapel and Little Lambs Pre-School Centre for the prevention and detection of crime and for protecting the safety of staff and visitors.

Useful Resources 2

These websites have interesting information for the health of your children:

- St John's Ambulance baby CPR - www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gc1kR8ZQxQ4&t=5s
- ICON - information to support parents with crying babies and prevent abusive head trauma - <https://iconcope.org/>

I'm sure you all wish to keep your children safe whilst they are **using the internet**. Below is a link to the NSPCC online safety tool to support you and safeguard your children

- NSPCC Online Safety - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety>

Arrival & Collection Times

Morning Children

Rainbow Room & Dove Room Children

Drop off and collect from main nursery entrance 8.25 - 8.35am
11.25 - 11.35am

Sunshine Room Children

Drop off and collect from Sunshine Room door on outdoor area 8.25 - 8.35am
11.25 - 11.35am

Afternoon Children

Rainbow Room & Dove Room Children

Drop off at main nursery entrance 12.30 - 12.40pm
Collect from main nursery entrance - 2.50 - 3.00pm
dependant on the agreed finish time
or
for your child 3.25 - 3.30pm

Sunshine Room Children

Drop off and collect from Sunshine Room door 12.30 - 12.40pm
2.50 - 3.00pm
or
collect from main nursery entrance if your child's finish time is 3.30pm 3.25 - 3.30pm

Toys

Please discourage children from bringing these from home. We have lots of toys already, and loss and breakage is always a possibility.



Important Reminders:

Smoking & Vaping

Bethel grounds and premises are no smoking areas. This includes both traditional and e-cigarettes. The boundary includes the area in front of the Little Lambs gates to a line between the front railings and the church wall. If you must smoke whilst waiting for your children, please do so on the public footpath and leave this recess smoke-free for parents, children & babies waiting at the gates. Thank you



Mobile Phones



Mobile phones should not be used on nursery premises.

Clothes

Could all parents make sure that they bring a spare change of clothes daily (needed for water play or toileting purposes)

Also could we ask parents to return any spare Little Lambs clothes they may have at home which they have borrowed



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Website: www.bethelchapel.net/little-lambs/



On-Line & Reviews

Our weekly notices, Prospectus, full Policy Document, this newsletter and lots of other useful documents are all available on our Tapestry and online - www.bethelchapel.net/little-lambs/

Please check at weekends for important notices for the following week, especially if you are not able to come into Pre-School on a daily basis due to work commitments etc.



Can parents help us to boost our online presence by reviewing Little Lambs on Google please? You can access this by searching for Little Lambs Pre-School on Google then clicking on 'Write a Review'. Thanks for your help.

We would appreciate any parents who have Facebook to follow us as we share updates on nursery and please leave a recommendation if you are able -

<https://www.facebook.com/Lambs1991>

Information sharing

If your child has done anything exciting during the week-end or holidays or has achieved a particular milestone, we would like to know so that we can talk about such an event with them. Please add your photos and anecdotes to their Tapestry account to give a complete overview of your child's learning experiences at Pre-School and at home, on outings and holidays

If you would like to submit an application form for another child, you can do so via our website -

<https://www.bethelchapel.net/little-lambs-application/>



Snow Watch

We try to remain open as much as possible, but if Little Lambs needs to close at anytime due to the inclement weather conditions, there will be information as soon as we can get it posted on our Tapestry system so please log in for updated memos.

You can also ring us on 01384 892137 or email lamb@bethelchapel.org.uk

Informal Parents Discussions

Afternoon Children - Thursday 6th March

Morning Children - Thursday 20th March

This is an informal evening where you can discuss the progress of your child and we encourage you as parents to come along and find out a little more about our Pre-School life and day to day activities here at Little Lambs. If you wish to discuss your child's progress with their Key Person, to avoid unnecessary delays, it would be easier if you booked a **10 minute appointment slot**. We would welcome and value any ideas, views and suggestions you may have and are happy to answer any questions arising, as we work together for the benefit of our children.

Afternoon Children's Progress Check

As part of the EYFS curriculum, it is a requirement that all children at nursery aged between 24-36 month have a progress check.

To comply with this we will arrange for each of our key persons to book meetings with parents of all children who fall into this category approximately 2 months after they start with us.

Advance Dates for Summer Term

- Closed Monday 5th May - bank holiday
- Summer Trip to Sycamore Centre - Tuesday 20th May, 9.30am - 3.15pm
- Half Term 26th - 30th May inclusive
- Father's Day celebrations - 12th June pm children, 13th June am children
- To be confirmed:
 - Sports Day
 - Parents Discussions in July
 - Leavers Service
 - End of Summer Term for pm children

Letters, Important Notices & Reports

Please can any parent/carer who wishes to receive a second copy of any correspondence for a parent/carer living outside the family home please see Jen, Emma or Clare.

If you wish such correspondence to be posted out or emailed please have the address and post code available.



And Finally

A big "Thank you" to all those parents who helped and supported in so many ways last year. May we continue to work together for the best for our children.

Only 350 more sleeps until Santa! (as at Thur 9th Jan!)

Looking forward to enjoying the Spring term here at Little Lambs
Working together for the best for our children.

AA This newsletter is available in larger print on request