



Early Summer 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

We were delighted by the success of the Spring Fair, fun was had by all and we raised amazing **£1039**.

May we take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting us in preparing for this enjoyable event. I'm sure you will join me in thanking the Ambleside team for their hard work, without which such events are not possible.

We will over the next few weeks be discussing how this money will be spent.

Please look out for a technology questionnaire—we would be most grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete the short questionnaire below and return it to your child's Key Worker. The information will be placed in their record and will also be used to help us get an overall sense of the types of technology children are using and review our current provision.



Summer is just around the corner! Here is a reminder about our sunny weather procedures. When it is hot and sunny, please do bring a sunhat for your child to wear outdoors. Before leaving your child, you will also need to apply sunscreen that lasts for the length of time that he/she is at nursery. Staff will top-up with sunscreen at lunchtime for children on-site for more than 6 hours, provided that you have given your consent. We will provide Soltan factor 40 (a donation of £2 towards the cost would be most appreciated). Only those children with allergies need to have their own cream provided. If your child does not attend for more than 6 hours, responsibility for applying sunscreen remains with you.



As always there are lots of other events and activities planned for the next few months. Please have a look at the calendar page in this newsletter or on our website for further details.

We have a few spaces left for May half term holiday sessions in Meadows

Please complete a form at Reception asap.





All Parents

30 hours of funded Child Care and Education in Meadows from September 2017.

We have now offered initial places to children due to start in Meadows in September 2017. This has been a complicated process due to the increase of funded hours from 15 hours to 30 hours for any eligible families. If you expect to take the additional funded hours in September please ensure you **register online for your 11 digit eligibility code.**

Pastures parents—please don't forget to apply early for your place in Meadows. You can put your child's name on our waiting list as soon as you wish. If you have not put their name on our waiting list, then we will not be able to offer them a place. Meadows places are offered in a particular order as determined by Wokingham Borough Council. Please ask at Reception if you would like more information.

Our car park is always very busy so a few reminders:

- Please do not tailgate
- If you are called by nursery to collect your child because he/she is ill, please call Reception at the barrier, and drive carefully and slowly around the one way system
- The disabled spaces are only for use by parents/staff who have been given disabled access
- All other parents are asked to use the Pay and Display car park by Lidl—if you would like car park scratch forms, please ask at Reception.

Childcare Vouchers

Please remember we accept Childcare Vouchers from all major providers.



Working parents can benefit from significant tax and NI savings using Childcare Vouchers, and up to double the amount if both parents are part of a Childcare Voucher scheme. Ask us at Reception for more information and our appropriate Registration number.

Parents can now also sign up for Tax Free Child Care scheme.

See www.childcarechoices.gov.uk for more information.

Ambleside Governors

If you are interested in becoming a governor and would you like to know more about the role, please speak with one of the Admin team for more information, or look out for one of our governors in nursery (if you don't know who they are, their photos are up in Reception).



Meadows

Learning Tours

12th June 1-3pm

15th June 9-11am

20th June 9-11am

Parents of children who joined us since January, are invited to come along and meet with Julie to find out what the children are learning in Meadows. There will also be an opportunity to spend time with your child in the Nursery.

Further information to follow.

Monday 5th June – Miller's Ark Farm Animals Visit

Miller's Ark will be bringing their mobile farm to visit the nursery. If your child does not attend on this day, you will be welcome to come and visit the farm with them. We ask for a small donation of £2 to help towards the cost of this experience. Please give your donations to the office.



26th June and 3rd July 2017

Parents' Consultations

Please speak with your child's Keyworker if you would like to arrange a 10 minute slot. Kerrie and Julie will also be available to answer any questions you may have about transition to school.

Donations

We would be very grateful for any donations of clothing for 3-6 year olds —particularly socks! We will also soon be collecting herbs for our wild garden.

Meadows Holiday Club



May Half Term—Tuesday 30th May to Friday 2nd June

Summer Holiday Club 26th July and 31st July to 1st Sept

Closing Date for Bookings—Friday 23rd June

Lots of fun activities. Please make sure you book your place

Forms available from Reception or on the website.

Meadows and Pastures closed for staff training 27th and 28th July

AND 4th and 5th September

Meadows and Pastures reopen Wednesday 6th September

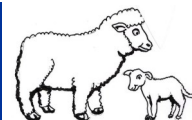




Pastures

Monday 5th June – Miller's Ark Farm Animals Visit

Miller's Ark will be bringing their mobile farm to visit the Meadows nursery. Some of the Pastures children will be taken through. Please speak to your keyworker for more information. If your child does not attend on this day, you will be welcome to come and visit the farm with them. We ask for a small donation of £2 to help towards the cost of this experience. Please give your donations to the office.



Monday 26th June, Tuesday 4th July 6.15-7.30pm

Parents' Evening

Sign up for this informal meeting on the sheet in nursery.

Saturday Stay and Play

10th June 10.00 am

to 12.00 noon

(sign up on the sheet in nursery)

Group Time and Picnic Tea

A parent/carer will be invited to join each child to experience a group time and share in a picnic tea. This will give you the opportunity to share in your child's play and learning.

Dates and details to follow



A reminder to all parents that afternoon sessions start at 1.00pm. Unfortunately due to staff/child ratios we cannot take them earlier.

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AND 4th and 5th September

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Children's Centre - For children birth to five years

Please see the Children's Centre timetable—on the board in Reception—for activities during April to June. A new timetable for activities July—September will be available at the end of June.





Ambleside Centre Healthy Snack Policy

- All snacks provided are free from sugars that can damage teeth and are low in salt
- Fruit and vegetables are encouraged (for healthy teeth we only give dried fruit at mealtimes)
- Water and milk are safe for teeth and therefore the only drinks we offer
- All children over 1 year old will be encouraged to drink from a cup
- The dietary needs of all children are respected
- Parents/carers who wish to provide food for birthdays are requested to provide fresh fruit rather than cakes or sweets.



Diary Dates



Date	Area	Details
Monday 29th May	Whole Centre	Bank Holiday— Centre Closed
Tuesday 30th May to Friday 2nd June	Meadows	Half term—Holiday Club Sessions (bookings only)
Monday 5th June	Meadows Pastures	Millers Ark Farm Visit
Saturday 10th June 10.00 am to 12.00 noon	Pastures	Stay and Play Session
Monday 12th June 1-3pm Thursday 15th June 9-11am Tuesday 20th June 9-11am	Meadows	Learning Tour
Friday 23rd June	Meadows	Closing date for summer break holiday club bookings
Monday 26th June 5.00—6.00 pm Monday 3rd July 5.00—6.00 pm	Meadows	Parent's Consultations and transition to school
Monday 26th June 6.15-7.30 pm Tuesday 4th July 6.15-7.30 pm	Pastures	Pastures Parents informal meeting. Sign up on the sheet in nursery
Tuesday 25th July	Meadows	Last day of term
Wednesday 26th July	Meadows Pastures	Meadows open for Holiday Club Pastures open (closed for 2 year funded places)
Thursday 27th and Friday 28th July	Meadows Pastures	Meadows and Pastures closed
Monday 31st July to Friday 1st September (excluding Monday 28th August)	Meadows	Summer break—Holiday Club Sessions (bookings only)
Monday 28th August	Whole Centre	Bank Holiday— Centre Closed
Monday 4th Sept and Tuesday 5th Sept	Meadows Pastures	Closed —closure days and staff training Closed —closure days and staff training
Wednesday 6th September	Meadows Pastures	Centre open as normal. Children return to nursery. (Children starting Meadows for the first time may have staggered start dates—please check letter being sent to you shortly).

For full details of all activities at the Children's Centre, please see separate timetable or flyers.