



THE LIME TREES AT JOHN CLIFFORD

December 2020

What a year 2020 has been.

Despite all of the setbacks and challenges this year, we are still here, supporting children, families and schools.

Since the school holidays the children have been getting stuck into a wide variety of activities and themes. From celebrating Diwali and Children in Need to learning about anti bullying and anti-racism, the children have had lots to do.

We are looking forward to celebrating Christmas and all things wintery. We will be writing letters to Santa to post in our very own Christmas post-box.

We will be making snowflakes, paperchains and felt candy ornaments for decorations for our Christmas parties, booked for 16th and 17th Dec (An email has been sent to parents in case you want to book an extra session for your child to join). Our Christmas jumper day is on the 11th December.

Through Jan to spring we will also be making Dinosaurs fossils with salt dough to go with our Dinosaurs small world area, decorate and make furniture for our dolls house with junk modelling, celebrate Chinese New year, valentine's day, mother's day, with lots of fun crafts.

We are looking forward to an exciting fun packed time with your children.

YOU SPOKE: WE LISTENED!

You Spoke: After school snack is often served late so some children miss out.




We listened: Snack options have been reviewed and snack is served at the start of the session, straight after registration

You Spoke: Parents cannot enter the setting and do not know what the children are doing

We listened: We have been using tapestry more to support pre school feedback and social media more to promote activities. We have been following our planners that were sent to parents in September and talking to parents at the end of sessions, where possible .

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STAFF TRAINING

Staff have recently updated the Food Hygiene Lv2, Designated Safeguard Lead training. We have also refreshed their knowledge on Prevent Duty, Covid-19 and risk assessments.

Environment

We have been working extremely hard to meet the evolving demand to be Covid secure. At present we are still operating within our bubble groups and have nothing but praise for the children and how they have adapted to this new environment. We cannot share resources across a bubble group during a session, but we are cleaning and disinfecting resources which allows them to be rotated throughout the week. Parents are still required to wear face coverings when on the school premises

TIPS AND ACTIVITIES AT HOME

Online Safety

Children and young people's lives have changed dramatically because of coronavirus. With social distancing and limited multi household interaction, children are spending more time than ever online.

Whilst the internet is a fantastic tool for learning and to stay connected, it can also bring risks.

It can be difficult to know how to start talking to your child about what they are doing online or who they might be talking to. But talking regularly will help your child feel relaxed and means that when they do have worries, they are more likely to come and speak to you.

The NSPCC has some great resources to support internet safety for children and they can be found by clicking [here](#)

February Holiday Club Offer

All February Holiday Club sessions booked before December 25th will receive 10% off the total cost.

Follow the link to book your sessions now - [Bookings Portal](#)



WISH UPON A STAR

This year we are working in partnership with the Wish Upon a Star foundation to raise funds for their trips to Lapland. Sadly, due to current events they cannot take families to Lapland for the first time in 30 years and will be concentrating on raising money for next year's event. To support their fundraising efforts, we will be taking part in a sponsored elf walk. Children will be provided with an elf hat and complete laps of the playground or school hall. To donate to this amazing charity please follow our link - [Just Giving](#)

FOODBANKS

You may have received our email regarding foodbanks. We provide childcare for approximately 1400 families and are now offering foodbank vouchers. Please speak to your club Manager or Head Office for further information. We are also accepting food donations into our settings. If you would like to donate, please inform your settings Club Manager and we will arrange for the food to be delivered to a local foodbank.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND NOTICES

Thursday 3rd December – International Day of Disabled Persons

Tuesday 22nd December – Invoice Due

Friday 18th December – Last day of term

Friday 1st January – New Years Day

Monday 4th January – First day of term

Friday 15th January – Martyn Luther King Day

Monday 18th January – Winnie the Pooh Day

Monday 25th January – Burns Night

Friday 5th February – World Nutella Day

Friday 12th February – Chinese New Year

Friday 12th February – Last day of term

15th – 19th February – School Holidays – Holiday Clubs Available

Monday 22nd February – First day of term

COMMENTS

“Super set up and super staff”

“Thank you for your hard work during this difficult time”

“Well organised and good communication”

“Been coming here for years and they’ve adapted to the situation very well”