



Barn Owls Pre-school, Parsonage Croft, Burwash Road, Etchingham, East Sussex TN19 7BY

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10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents

I hope you all had a lovely autumn break. The children have been talking about their Halloween exploits and watching fireworks and have been re-creating their experiences at the setting. We are now on the very exciting run towards Christmas!

### **Nativity**

Each year, our older children (those due to start school in September 2024) have the opportunity to take part in our Nativity play. If you would prefer that your child DOESN'T take part in the Nativity, please let a member of staff know as soon as possible.

This year, our Nativity play will be at 2pm on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December in the on-site village hall. Further details will follow nearer the time but there will be mince pies and hot drinks and a raffle for the Christmas Hamper. We haven't yet cast the Nativity but may ask for a little help with costumes at a later date!

The Nativity is for all of our older children, even if they do not usually attend on a Friday afternoon.

### **Christmas Party**

Our Christmas Party will be over lunchtime on our last day of term, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December and will finish at 1.30pm, when the setting will close for the holidays.

### **Collection Times**

Please could I ask parents to be as prompt as possible when collecting children. Our sessions and timings are carefully arranged to make sure staff are able to take their lunchbreaks and to maintain our legal ratios alongside our planning, paperwork and set up responsibilities. We understand that everyone gets held up from time to time and I would be grateful if you could call to let us know if this is the case. Persistent late collection will result in a charge as per our session times and fees policy, available on request. Thank you for your help.

### **Outside Play**

All children will go outside to play every day, whatever the weather, unless it isn't safe to do so. At this time of year, please could children come to the setting with a coat which is both warm and waterproof. Thank you.

### **Children In Need**

Children In Need this year – the Great Spotacular - takes place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. Children are invited to wear something spotty to the setting if they have it and any donations on the day or during next week would be very welcome.

### **TERM DATES 2023-24**

Term 2: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Term 3: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Term 4: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Term 5: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Term 6: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – No School Dinners Available

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – No School Dinners Available

Please note that the pre-school term dates are not exactly the same as school term dates. This is because pre-schools are funded slightly differently from schools and for less weeks per year.

If you have any questions, worries or concerns whatsoever, including Safeguarding or online safety please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Helen Packham  
and the Barn Owls Team