

It is officially the start of a new term and nursery is busy, busy... We would like to welcome our new families to Little Swans and hope you find your time at Little Swans a positive experience for you and your child. There are lots of children settling over the next few weeks who are very tearful as they are leaving their mummy's and daddy's for the first time as well as children moving into new areas who are adapting to the new routine and environment. These transitional periods can be difficult for parents as well as the children, should you have any concerns regarding your child's settling in please speak with a member of management. Can we ask that parents are mindful that staff are settling in children and at busy times this may delay staff answering the intercom systems. We have a few new members of staff who have joined the team at Little Swans, we would like to welcome Andrea who worked with us previously as a student and cover staff. She will be working as a qualified staff member in Smarties, term time only from 8.30am – 5pm. We also have Ashleigh a previous student with us who is now working in Sweeties as an apprentice working towards completing her level 3 qualification. And finally Rose who many parents may have already met this week. Rose is the nursery's assistant manager and will be on the premises from 7.30-10.30am each morning. We will be collecting harvest festival this month in nursery so we can support the local community during the winter months. All donations will be appreciated, thank you ☺

Our Topic book at nursery for August is
'The Jolly Postman'

Find out what we are up to on a daily basis by



following us on **TWITTER**; search for swansyardley. Or go to our nursery website and read our room blogs or learn about future events on www.littleswans.org.uk

Heroes News This month the children will be learning about Harvest Festival and helping vulnerable people in the community. To support topic work around 'the Jolly Postman' the children will be writing letters and having a walk in the community to post them in the post boxes. We will also be practicing our drama skills in Heroes and acting out roles from the story helping us to recall parts from the book; testing our memories. We will also be creating our own stories. We will be spending time this month teaching the children the boundaries and rules in the Heroes room such as carpet times and good sitting for stories and focus activities. You can help the children at home by recalling on past events/ experiences as we will be sharing news as part of our circle time. Atkhia has also planned lots of creative activities for us to do so we can display these in the Heroes room.

Jelly Babies News This month Jelly Babies will be welcoming the new children who have joined us as part of our nursery family. We will be creating new displays, one will be based on the Jolly postman book and the other will be spaghetti printing. Display work is fantastic for sensory development as children explore a variety of different textures. The children will also be doing foam, sand, water, paint and mud play during the month. Staff have planned lots of physical activities including Tumble Tots so the babies will be very active and mobile this month. The babies have continued with their Makaton signs 'bed, please, more and thank you', and this month we will be continuing with Makaton to support communication.

Smarties & Sweeties News This month the **Smarties** will be having lots of cuddles and comfort from staff to support children settling into the Smarties room, we have many children who have not attended a nursery before who need lots of reassurance and support. We will be doing lots of play focused activities based on children's likes to support building relationships amongst both adults and children. Staff will be supporting children with the changes in routine such as lining up to go outside and sitting for short periods for story times and singing. We will also be changing our displays so our new children can begin to develop a sense of belonging in the Smarties room as they observe their work on the wall displays. We will also begin to have a small circle time each day where the children will be encouraged to count and continue to recognise their colours.

This month the **Sweeties** Will be spending time getting to know each other, their teachers and the new environment. The children will also be learning to recognise their primary and secondary colours as well as learning numbers and counting and days and months of the year as part of their morning registration. We have lots' of display work to do this term and the children will be getting creative doing a shapes, under the sea and mark making displays, this will support our fine motor skills and grasps when using tools.

Rolos News This month we will be participating in activities with Dianne based on the story 'The Jolly Postman' and will be learning about different occupations and job roles. Staff will be supporting the children in Rolos with routine and boundaries, helping the children to maintain focus during learning times in the Rolos room. We will be having lots of mark making activities to support pencil control as well as developing our hand eye coordination using our fine motor skills. The children love exploring the outdoor areas and we will be spending time outside extending on our gross motor skills, through making large movements and climbing. The children will also be supported in developing their self-care skills such as hand washing and toileting.

Jelly Tots News Jelly Tots children are starting to settle in their new room at nursery and beginning to form relationships with the adults and key persons in the room. This month we will be learning our primary colours red, blue and yellow and creating pictures from these colours to support our learning. Jelly tots will also be looking at some of their favourite nursery rhymes and staff will use the children's likes to incorporate them into display work.

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Dates for your diary: From Monday 3rd September to Friday 28th September 2018

Story Sessions at the library: Every other Monday starting from Monday 10th September, Rolos, Monday 24th September Heroes

Nanny Shirley: Every Thursday unless family commitment
Forest School: School will confirm date for children to attend

Upcoming Events and Dates

Notice for all parents

*Drop in SENCO Session

Dianne is the nursery's setting-based SENCO and will be offering parents and staff a drop-in session each month. If you have any concerns regarding your child's development.

Notice for Parents.

- We will be holding a toy sale on Friday 7th September any donations of old toys would be appreciated. All funds will go towards purchasing a whiteboard and projector for the Heroes room.
- All building work to the loft conversion is nearly completed. All areas are open again as normal and accessible to parents.
- We will be holding a mac Millan coffee morning at nursery this month. If you are able to bake or donate any cakes for the morning it would be most appreciated. The coffee morning will be on Friday 28th September at 10am at nursery
- Can all parents please ensure their child's belongings including clothes are clearly labelled with their full name. Thank you
- Preschool staff have asked to remind parents that their child's coat and bag must be left in the coat area and on the bag trolley each day.
- The weather is starting to change can we please ask parents to ensure their child is dressed appropriately for the weather such as warmer

FUNDING

The government site [childcare choices](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk). Is a site which has been set up by the government to advise parents on funding and tax free childcare available for working parents? You can also check your eligibility for 2 year old funding on the site. If you think you may be eligible please visit the site on complete the online calculator which will provide you with money saving options for your childcare. Thank you

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>

September 2018 Dates for your Diary

- Monday 3rd September - Start of the Autumn Term
- Week Commencing 3rd September - Harvest collection starts at nursery for the local community. Any donations of tins or dried packet food appreciated
- Friday 7th September - second hand toy sale at nursery from 4pm onwards
- Thursday 27th September - Jolly Phonics parent workshop from 5-6pm. Children in the preschool unit will be participating in Jolly Phonic sessions this year. We would like to invite parents in preschool to attend a workshop to share information about the Jolly Phonics programme. This event will be for parents only. Please let a member of the preschool staff know if you are

Rose Sargent (Miss Sargent) - Nursery Assistant Manager



Staff Training:

The next staff training will be held on Thursday 27th September from 5- 6pm. All children need to be collected from nursery by 4.50pm to ensure a prompt start. We will also be holding a Jolly Phonics workshop for parents of preschool with the preschool staff from 5-6pm. Can you please let preschool staff know if you would be able to attend?

Late collection will incur a late collection charge.787