**UP COMING DIARY DATES 2019**

**Monday 26th August**

CLOSED Bank Holiday

**Wednesday 4th September**

Lisa-Jane returns to work

**Tuesday 10th September**

Open morning

**Friday 4th October**

Birds of Prey visit

**W/C 7th October**

Parent consultations

**Tuesday 15th October**

Open Morning

**Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd October**

Christmas photos

**Monday 28th October**

Beechoak Farm turns 23

**W/C 25th November**

Parent Craft week

**Tuesday 3rd December**

Children’s Christmas Parties

**EXCLUSION REMINDER**

Please may we remind parents that there is a **48 hour exclusion** after sickness and diarrhoea, this is from the last bout of either sickness or diarrhoea. So please do not send your child in if they are showing any signs of this.

**MILLIE’S MARK ACCREDITATION**

We are pleased to tell you that we have been awarded our Millie’s Mark accreditation! Millie's Mark is a special endorsement for childcare providers that go above and beyond these minimum requirements by having 100% of staff trained in paediatric first aid, and also ensuring that everything learned during the course is kept in the forefront of practitioners’ minds so that they are confident, ready and capable.

**FOOD FOR LIFE ACCREDITATION**

We now look to our next planned accreditation which is run in conjunction with Jamie Oliver’s Garden Project. As part of this accreditation will shall be looking at all foods we offer throughout the day, food education with the children and how we grow products for use. We will update you along our journey!

**STAFF NEWS**As always we have been a busy team since our last letter. We have said a sad farewell to two long standing members of the team. Both Harriett and Keeley had lovely send offs and we know that we will see them both soon. Once again we wish them all the very best in their futures.

We look forward to September which sees the return of our Deputy and Montessori Teacher, Lisa-Jane. Lisa-Jane has been missed whilst she has been on maternity leave! At this point Sam, our Deputy will also move her working days to the start of the week and together Sam and Lisa will lead the Badgers.

September also see’s Vicky taking on a slightly new role. As of September she will be working in the Swans room on Monday’s and Wednesday’s

As ever we encourage our team to extend their learning. This summer has seen Maria Roberts, Gerri, Vicky and Lily all commence their NVQ’s. Whilst Brogan, Claire and Rochelle are still plugging away with their NVQ level 3’s.

A big congratulations to Alice who has now completed her NVQ and is now a level 3 member of the team! Well done Alice, what an achievement!

At Beechoak we have an ongoing dedication to staff training and development. We are continuously looking to improve and development as a team to make the nursery experience strong for our children. Safeguarding refresher training for all of us will commence shortly and Fire Marshall training is planned in September for Sarah, Steph, Lucy, Jenny, Lauren and Hayley. First Aid training is also planned for November for those whose certificates expire this year. Some team members have also completed short courses in the form of distance learning – both Chanelle and Lauren have completed a course looking at specific learning difficulties, Hayley has completed a course looking at The Prevent Duty and Safeguarding, Sophie has completed the Understanding Autism course and both Steph and Georgie have focussed on understanding behaviour that challenges.

**SPORTS DAY**

Our annual sports day was a great success! The children were all fantastic and showed great sportsmanship with the Yellow team being victorious for the first time!

**RSPB WILD CHALLENGE**

This is well underway throughout the nursery with lots of lovely activities taking place. We are sure you have seen them via Tapestry. The children and staff are enjoying the challenge and look forward to gaining the awards!

**SUMMER LEAVERS, MOVERS & STARTERS**

Our transition process is now in full flow with lots of our children saying goodbye as they move on to their next big adventure! Most parents would have received moving up letters by now and the children have been visiting their new rooms, some have already moved! Reports from the teachers are very positive with the children settling well so far! We are also meeting the children and so far again they are all doing very well! We look forward to getting to know them and their families more. Welcome to Beechoak Farm!

**BIRDS OF PREY VISIT**

On Friday 4th October Coda Falconry will be visiting Beechoak with their birds of prey! This will be a lovely opportunity for those children in attendance to see different birds in action. The children will have the opportunity to ask questions so please do discuss this with them before the day. This activity will only be open to the children on Fridays.

**PARENT CONSULTATIONS**

Parent consultations will be carried out the week of 7th October, parents will have the opportunity to book a short time slot to meet with their child’s key person to discuss progress, concerns and future aspirations. Further details will be sent out closer to the time.

**PARENT CRAFT**

Children, parents and staff all had a lovely time getting crafty with our summer activities! Thank you to all the parents that took the time to attend. We shall be running a Christmas themed craft week starting on the 25th November. We shall send out details closer to the time.

**CLOTHING & SHOES**

We encourage the children at Beechoak to become independent and encourage them to do as much for themselves as possible. Could we please remind you that shoes with Velcro straps are easier for the child to put on and off by themselves aiding their independence. Laces and converse style trainers are very difficult for the children to put on and can become a trip hazard if they become untied. No crocs, sandals or any other summer style shoes are allowed to be worn at Beechoak Farm during the summer months. Shoes must be closed toe in shoes i.e. not a flip flop but a plimsoll style.

Could we please ask that you are dressing the children in suitable clothing for the weather and that the children bring wellington boots, every day that they attend. Often we use the back field as a nature trail and the children are able to check on our bug hotel for creepy crawlies and insects and also play in the mud kitchen.

**TAPESTRY**

We would like to remind you that we will not be sending out daily Tapestry observations. It is essential that we have a balance between the amounts of time that our staff spend compiling these alongside supporting your children. As a staff team we feel that the time spent on Tapestry has taken over from spending quality time with your children, therefore going forwards we will only be recording significant achievements.

**INVOICING**

Is prepared and sent on or around the 20th of each month. If you are having trouble receiving these emails please do check your spam or junk files as sometimes they are delivered there. Payments are due on or before the first of the month, at which time the FEE Planner will take your direct debit payment. If you are using the childcare voucher please ensure that these are also with us on or before the first of each month.

Any account enquiries should be forwarded to June from accounts by way of email beechoakfarmaccounts@btconnect.com.

**PLEASE REMEMBER!**

* Please do not allow the children to climb on the statue.
* To ensure your child is sent in with appropriate clothing and footwear during the cold, wet winter months. No UGGs or UGG style shoes are allowed at nursery.
* For safeguarding purposes we ask you not to use your mobile phone once you are through the school gate. Please finish any phone calls and refrain from answering calls whilst on the premises.
* Please make sure that the main gate and gates through the field are fully closed behind you at dropping off and collection times.
* Please reverse into parking bays for the safety of the children.
* Please call in the event of your child’s absence especially if you child has a special diet. The office is open from 7.45am in the morning, alternatively please leave a message or email.
* Please drop off promptly at 9am as late drop offs disrupt the classes. Also can we remind parents to collect by 4pm or 5pm if your child is booked into tea club, any late collections are chargeable and extremely disruptive to our staff.
* Could we please also ask that siblings are not left unsupervised on the premises at drop off/ collection time. Please keep them with you at all times, we cannot be held responsible for their safety.
* Can you please refrain from sending food products in. We have many children with allergies and it is essential that they do not come into contact with certain foods.
* A notice board is situated outside the main office which is updated every Friday evening for the following week with the upcoming events, lunches etc. So please keep an eye on this so you do not miss out.
* Could we please remind parents to ensure that their child has enough nappies and wipes for the week.
* Please can we ask that if your child is sent home in spare clothes that they are returned, we are getting low on our spare clothes. Alternatively if you are having a clear out and have any spare knickers, pants, socks and trouser we would gratefully accept them.

Kindest Regards

Beechoak Farm Team