**Welcome** to the first half of the Summer term!

**Teddy Bears Duck Race 2019**

Our Duck Race is to be held on **Sunday 19th May** from 2-4pm at Jubilee Gardens near the Fish Inn, in Ringwood. Please buy your ducks, at £1 each, the person who sells the most ducks wins a prize! Great prizes and lots of fun activities on the day. We will be collecting wine bottles for our stall and filled sweetie bags. We will also be asking the children to decorate a duck. Thank you to Hearnes who are sponsoring our duck race again this year! We also sell ‘business ducks’ at £10 each – if anyone would like to buy one for their business do let us know!

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Childrens’ Photos/Leavers’ Photos** We will be welcoming Richard Lines to take individual portrait photos for all children and families, on **21st May 2019** at our Hall. A group photo will also be taken for all older children starting school in September 2019. More information on this soon!

**Teddy Bears Summer Outing** We will be having a summer outing again this year – more on this to come!
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**End of Term Picnic** On **Friday 19th July** from 12pm at ‘Toads Corner’ play park, opposite the Poulner Infant School. (We will hold the picnic in the Teddy Bears hall if the weather is wet). Please note that the term ends at 3.30pm on Monday 22nd July 2019.

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**Leaver’s Session** Older children will have a special leaving session on Tuesday 16th July. More information nearer the time.

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**Older Children drop off**
From now on (or from half term, if you think it would be better to start it later) older children starting school in September can be dropped off at the door to help them get used to this when starting school. We will sign them in. You are welcome to continue to come in with your child if you think they aren’t ready for this.

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**Person Picking Up your Child** Please ensure that you inform us of who is picking up your child. They must be over the age of 18. Please ensure they also carry some sort of ID. If your arrangements change during the session then please contact us on 07864199890 with a name and a contact number for them.

**Occasional Extra Sessions** Please email us and let us know if you are taking your child out during term time. If you require an extra session at Teddy Bears, please email our Administrator Sally von Kaufmann, and we will confirm whether the date is possible. The extra sessions will be charged at the rate of £4.50 per hour for non-grant children, and for those who receive EYE funding, it may be possible to claim for the extra hours if your balance of hours allows, otherwise the same rate will be applied.

**Children’s Tapestry**  We really enjoy seeing what your child has been up to at home and sharing their development with you. Please keep the photos and comments coming. If you are having difficulty logging onto your child’s Tapestry details, please speak to your child’s keyperson.
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**Fundraising Update** The Easter Sponsored Bunny fund raiser was a huge success, and raised in excess of £100. Thank you for everyone who gave so generously. It was great fun and lovely to see so many fantastic bonnet creations! We are in the process of buying some new resources.
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Healthy Eating at Teddy Bears**Please can we remind you that Teddy Bears Pre-School promotes healthy eating, and is a “**NUT FREE ZONE**”. Please continue to provide your child with a healthy variety of food, cut into **child** friendly size. Please ensure grapes/tomatoes etc are cut lengthways to avoid the possibility of choking. Please can we remind you that items that may contain nuts, sweets, chocolate and chocolate covered items are not allowed in the pre-school.

**Breakfast**
If your child hasn’t had breakfast before they come in then please tell their keyperson or a member of staff, and provide something for them to eat at the beginning of the session.

**Policies and Procedures**
Our policies are regularly updated. May we please remind you that they are available to view on our parent’s table in the foyer or you are welcome to request a copy of them. These can be emailed to you. We currently have 44 policies in total.

**Late Collection of a child at the end of a session**
Please can you pick up your child promptly at the end of the session, as staff need to pack away quickly due to other users needing the hall. Please phone us if you are held up or delayed collecting your child.

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Useful website**
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/childcare>

This website has useful information for parents and carers regarding financial support/Special Educational Needs/the Early Years Foundation Stage and how you can help your child to learn at home.
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**Visits with Poulner Infant School**

Poulner Infant School will visit Teddy Bears on Tuesday 7th May and Tuesday 14nd May at around 9.30am. Our visits to Poulner Infant School with the older children (accompanied by pre-school staff) will be on Tuesday 11th June. More information on this to follow.

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**Confirmation of September 2019 sessions**
We hope to soon be in a position to confirm your child’s sessions for September 2019 onwards. If you haven’t yet advised us of your requirement or you need to change what you originally requested, please get in contact with our Administrator Sally von Kaufmann as soon as possible.
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Please note - Teddy Bears is now unexpectedly CLOSED for the European Elections on 23rd May 2019 as they are using the Hall as the Polling Station.

Have a wonderful half term!