

# Hitchin Newsletter

## Welcome

Thank you for taking the time to read our December newsletter! November was full of fireworks and fun. The children have continued to be busy learning and exploring. Take a look at some of the highlights from last month, as well as the exciting things we have planned for this month.

## What's to come...

We have lots of exciting activities planned for December, including Hannukah celebrations, Christmas dinner, stay and play sessions and a pre school Christmas performance. Winter is here so we are also hoping for some snowy fun in the garden.

We will be writing cards to our loved ones and sharing some cheer by sending out treats to our neighbours.

Our preschool are turning their home corner into an Elf workshop.

We hope you all enjoy some peace and lots of fun during our winter closure. We are open as usual on 24th December and return on 2nd January 2026.



## What we have been up to...

Our Little Hands, Big Hearts Fundraiser for BBC Children In Need raised an incredible £223! We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated money or prizes. Please see our Facebook page for photos and videos of our super fun afternoon.

**Butterflies** have been exploring a wiggly worm tuff tray to support their fine motors skills. They used tweezers to develop their pincer grasp to grip the wiggly worm.

**Owls** have been spreading kindness in celebration of World Kindness Day. The children wrote their friends a card to tell them why they're amazing.

**Little Toads** have been looking after our nature garden. The children used the watering cans to water the flowers. They discussed how the flowers are changing as the colder weather approaches.



# Parent Notices

## Buggy Storage

Please can I remind all parents and carers to collapse their push chairs before putting them in the buggy storage.

## Winter clothes

Please bring your child in in appropriate clothing for the cold weather, this includes vests, jumpers, trainers, wellies, hats and gloves.

## Dogs in the garden

Just a little reminder that dogs should not be entering the garden area at any point in the day. They must be tied up outside the garden gate.

## Staff update

Please welcome Abie to the team. Abie will be joining us as a Modern Apprentice in our Dragonflies room.

We will be sad to say goodbye to our Team Leader Cydney who will be leaving us in December. We wish her all the best in the future.

# Dates for your diary

Date	Event
6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> December	Tree Dressing Day
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
14 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Hanukkah
25 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Day

Albie - Modern Apprentice



## Recipe of the Month - Parsnip, Butterbean & Apple Soup

(Serves 4-6)



### Ingredients

Parsnips - (peeled & diced) - 500g  
Potatoes (chopped) - 3  
Onion - (roughly diced) - 1 whole  
Carrot - (roughly diced) - 2 whole  
Garlic clove - (chopped) - 4 cloves  
Butterbeans - 1 can  
Apples (cored and chopped) - 2 whole  
Veg Stock - 1 cube  
Rosemary - 1 tsp

### Method

1. In a large pan, sweat the onions and garlic until cooked (but with no colour) in a bit of butter.
2. Add the carrots, potatoes and parsnips and apples.
3. Fill the pan with water to a level just above the vegetables.
4. Add butterbeans.
5. Bring back to the boil and then allow to simmer until all the ingredients are soft.
6. Blend to a smooth consistency.
7. Serve with half a baguette.



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Kind Regards  
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**Toad Hall**  
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