

Hitchin Newsletter



Welcome

Happy New Year!

Thank you for taking the time to read this month's newsletter! December was a wonderful month filled with lots of celebrations. Take a look at some of the highlights from last month, as well as the exciting things we have planned for January.

What's to come...

Tiny Talks

The under two's will continue to have our Tiny Talk baby signing sessions every Tuesday. This is run by the lovely Emma from Tiny Talks. These sessions involve fantastic props, sign language and songs.

Forest school

This will return on 12th January for our Owls children, every Monday morning led by Tanya. Exploring the natural triangle of Hitchin and Making things out of natural resources is one of preschools favorite things to do.

French lessons

Owls and Badgers will be continuing to learn new French words in our weekly French sessions led by Louise from Bilingual sing. The children love learning new words and rhymes.

What we have been up to...

All our children enjoyed a festive Christmas dinner on Wednesday 17th December. The children made party hats and decorated tablecloths to go with the party plates and cups.

Owls room took part in their very own Christmas concert. I'm sure you will all agree the children did a fabulous job! Thank you to all the team who helped make this a great event. We are so proud of all the Owls children!

Hedgehogs celebrated Hanukkah by painting their hands to make handprint candles and listening to a variety of Hanukkah songs.

Butterflies made their own snow by mixing conditioner and cornflour. They added winter animals into the tray to explore a winter scene.

Little Chicks have been focusing on the story *Stick Man*. The team helped the children re-tell parts of the story using a story sack full of props.



Parent Notices

Thank you

We just wanted to thank all the families that joined us for our stay and play sessions this month. Without your support these events would not be possible and it's so lovely to see the parent partnerships flourish.

School places

Just a reminder if you are applying for a school place for September 2026 the deadline is 15th January.

Parking

We would just like to remind parents not to park in the allocated parking spaces that belong to other companies. These parking bays are marked with the company signs.

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Friday 2 nd January	Nursery returns from the Christmas break
Monday 5 th January	National Bird Day
Wednesday 7 th January	Welcome back Parents' Breakfast
Friday 23 rd January	Big Garden Birdwatch
Sunday 25 th January	Burns Night

Congratulations to Beth and Kaylee for their promotion to Team Leaders. Both Beth (joined in 2019) and Kaylee (joined in 2016) began their journeys at Toad Hall as Modern Apprentices. We are super proud of them both.



Recipe of the Month – Carrot and Date Slice



(Serves 6-8)

Ingredients

Self Raising Flour – 250g
Oil – 70 ml
Carrots (grated) – 200g
Apple – 1
Egg – 3
Butter (melted) – 50g
Dates – 150g
Raisins – 75g
Baking Powder – 1 tsp
Cinnamon – 1 tsp

Method

1. Set oven to 180 C and line a baking tray.
2. Pour boiling water over the dates and leave to soak while you measure out the ingredients and grate the carrot and apple.
3. Drain and finely chop the dates
4. In a large bowl, whisk the eggs together with the butter and oil. Add the grated carrots, apple, dates, raisins and mix well.
5. Pour in the flour, baking powder and cinnamon and fold in.
6. Scrape into the lined tray and bake for 40-45 mins.