



Holding Hands Pre-school

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To all of our parents and carers,

We hope you are all enjoying the sunshine this weekend and we look forward to hearing all about any fireworks you might have been to see!

Over the past week, the children have explored the Halloween theme fully, by creating pumpkin papier-mâché heads and making spider webs. They have also made green and orange, nutmeg spiced play dough and mixed paints together to create autumnal hues. We have role played ghosts, witches and skeletons and danced to Halloween themed videos and music.

Outside, the children have loved looking after the animals, jumping in muddy puddles and exploring the fields in the wet weather. Inside, we have enjoyed playing with the duplo, train tracks and farm. The children made a lovely game out of sorting the natural resources including pine cones, seashells and pebbles and delighted in using the water tray to pour, scrub and learn about capacity, quantity and measures.

We would like to say a big thank you to all of our parents who attended parent feedback on Monday. We greatly appreciate speaking with you about your children's progress and we were delighted to see so many of you this time around.

At lot of children are currently embarking on their potty training adventure and we thought it would be a good opportunity to share some helpful links for those of you facing potty training or thinking about starting the challenge with your little ones. Below

are some really useful websites, packed with advice, information and pointers to help you on your way...

The children's bowel and bladder charity have information on everything from potty training readiness signs to support and guidance on stool withholding...

<https://www.eric.org.uk/>

How to potty train is a website that claims to cover everything you need to know in one place and has a really helpful week by week guide to get you started...

<https://www.howtopottytrain.com/>

For simple advice and guidance the NHS covers everything from the norms, when to start and how and offers useful tips which can be found using this link...

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/pregnancy-and-baby/potty-training-tips/>

Do you have any great websites or books you've used or any helpful tips? Please let us know so we can share with everyone!

On another note, the online portal for primary applications opens on **5th November 2018**. Children born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015 will be starting school in September 2019 and will therefore need to start the application process now. All the information you need to know and how to access the application process can be found below...

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/education/school-admissions/starting-school-or-moving-up-to-junior-school/>

Mares are Holding a bonfire party on Sunday 4th! This will be very family friendly...feeding the animals from 12, building the bonfire together and the bonfire will be lit at 4pm. This will be followed by hot dogs and hot chocolate with marshmallows. £2.50 per person and all proceeds will go towards the animals winter feed.

Christmas decoration order forms are attached to this email. The decorations are beautiful and the children are having so much fun creating them. We hope you will all be interested in purchasing some as they make great keepsakes and unique

Christmas presents for all the family. Please return your orders as soon as possible to get them in time for Christmas. And please remember to bring in your white sock if you haven't already!

Plans are also underway for the children's Christmas party and performance which will be held on **Tuesday 18th December** so keep an eye out for more information that will be coming your way soon!

Thank you for taking the time to read this email,
The Holding Hands Team.