



NORTH STREET, ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE LE65 1HS

01530 415541 (daytime) or 01530 224233 (evening)

Dear Parents

I can hardly believe I am writing to you for what will be the last official time in 2011. What a year of contrasts and readjustments this has been. Having nursed my Father for 6 months all at the nursery are trying to get accustomed to life without the inimitable "Jack". He was so inspirational and life will never be quite the same again. I have embraced my working life and have achieved my ultimate dream of expanding into the building next door, with its fabulous facilities and amazing outdoor space. We now have a host of animals which the children adore and my weekend life now closely resembles a scene from the "Good Life" as I feed and muck out the livestock!

On November 11th, following the Armistice Parade in Ashby, the garden at the front of the new building will be dedicated to the memory of Jack and will be available to staff and parents as a haven of peace and reflection.

Our charity event for "Help the Heroes" of releasing balloons has captivated the imagination so much that Natalie and I spoke on BBC Radio Leicester! There will be live coverage in the Pre-Prep on Friday 11th, featuring this novel way of starting to sow the seeds of the importance of "remembrance" in the minds of young children.

We are building up to our busiest time of the year and listed below are some key dates for your diary:

Informal Parents Evening with mulled wine and mince pies – **Thursday 8th December**

Nursery Closes at **5pm Wednesday 21st December and re-opens on Tuesday 3rd January**

One of our development ideas was to have available a number of "packs" for you to order free of charge to help you support your child with a variety of situations such as the birth of a new baby, biting, behaviour, illness, potty training. A request for these packs will be available in the reception area of both buildings. Please post into the internal letter box. As the weather is changing please remember we are very keen to organise sessions of outdoor play for the children. It is therefore essential that the children are well protected from the elements.

We are supporting Macmillan Nurses as our Christmas charity. Please help us. There will be a raffle and a "snowflake" scene and your support would mean so much. I have a charity day at my home in Osgathorpe on 1st December. Tickets are £5. Please contact me via the nursery or 07980755286 for details and tickets.

I hope to see you at one the events listed above!

Regards, Gail