



Christmas Newsletter

The first half of the Autumn term has flown by and we are now beginning to put things in place as we look forward to celebrating the festive time of Christmas.

Thank you to those that attended the Clothes Swap Party at the beginning of October. The fundraising event for the defibrillator and Essex & Herts Air Ambulance was a huge success. Ducklings would like to also thank you for supporting our cause by keeping yourselves hydrated during the event.

The Ark Farm visit was wonderfully received, and the children had an enjoyable morning, meeting some interesting animals that they wouldn't have otherwise been so up and close to. Thank you to those of you that contributed to this extra-curricular event.

Thank you also to those that were able to meet at this year's AGM meeting. We appreciate the support that has been given by parents of our pre-school and community. Please see below details of our new committee members.

Dates for Your Diary!

-  **Monday 29th November**
OCCASSIONAL DAY
-  **Wednesday 8th December**
DUCKLINGS CLOSES AT 1pm
-  **Thursday 9th December**
Ducklings & Toddlers Xmas Party with Sally Squiggles
-  **Tuesday 14th December**
Ducklings Christmas Concert
-  **Friday 17th December**
Breakfast with Santa
-  **Tuesday 21st December – noon finish**
END OF TERM
-  **Thursday 6th January 2022**
Start of Winter Term

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

OFFICERS

CHAIR – Mrs Kelly Ayres

TREASURER – Mrs Jen Simpson

SECRETARY – Ms Nikki Miller

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms Kathryn Crofts

Mrs Roxanne Stuart

Mrs Katie Harvey

Mrs Gill Lewis

Mr John Carter

As we slowly come out of restrictive Covid measures, we are still having to follow government guidelines to keep our children, families and staff safe.

If your child is experiencing any of the following symptoms – new or continuous cough, change or loss of taste or smell and/or high temperature please keep your child at home and book a PCR test or speak with your GP.

We would be grateful that if your child is generally feeling unwell that you strongly consider keeping them at home, until they feel better, to protect other children and staff from possible infection.

Ducklings Pre-School is a charity, and we heavily rely on fundraising to be able to continue running. This is an area we have struggled to achieve since the Pandemic struck. If you have any suggestions of events you would be interested in attending, please let us know your ideas!



We raised £111 from our Bag 2 School October collection.

Our next collection is Tuesday 18th January 2022.

We accept the following 'good quality' items for RE-USE: We **DO NOT** accept:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding
- Duvets and blankets
- Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)
- Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- School uniforms with and without logo
- Corporate clothing and workwear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material



Sign up and nominate Hunsdon Ducklings Pre-school as your cause and start generating free cash donations with each online purchase you buy through The Giving Machine

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 5th February 2022

Hunsdon Tiddle Off

Hunsdon Village Hall

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW...

Get your concoctions brewing !!!!



If you are an Amazon customer, you can now help to raise money for Hunsdon Ducklings each time you buy when using Amazon Smile, as they will donate 0.5% of the cost of all eligible products to our charity once you register us as your cause.

Please save and use the link:-

<https://www.smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1042209-0>

STIKINS®

Label your children's clothes and possessions with Stikins personalised labels.

Order through www.stikins.co.uk and use the fundraising code 10330.

Our **Christmas Raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 01st December**. The children will be coming home with £20 worth of tickets, which we ask that you sell to friends and family. There are some great prizes from a variety of small and local businesses that have been so generous with their prize donations. **Please return named stubs and money by Friday 26th November.**

CHRISTMAS 2021

Ducklings & Toddlers Christmas Party - Thursday 9th December from 9.30am until noon

Sally Squiggle will be back entertaining the children at our annual Christmas party at the village hall. All children, along with parents/carers are welcome to attend, however, if you are unable to accompany your child you can bring them into Ducklings at 9.15am where staff will be available to supervise them.

Ducklings will provide food and refreshments on the morning for all children, but we ask that parents/carers bring a present (£5 max), wrapped and labelled, for Father Christmas to present them with.

The Ducklings Christmas Carol Concert will take place on Tuesday 14th December at 11:15am. The children are looking forward to entertaining you and we hope that we will be able to allow not just parents/carers, but extended family, to the event (Covid guidelines permitting). Tea, coffee and mince pies will be served after the concert and you will have an opportunity to read through your child's learning journey and talk with your child's keyworker.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

The children will begin to make their personalised Christmas cards very soon. These will be available to purchase from 26th November. The first pack of 12 cards is £5 and additional packs £4.

SANTA LETTERS

Every year we offer 'a letter from Santa' service. Your child will receive their letter through the door and a picture to colour in to leave out for Father Christmas on Christmas Eve. Santa letters cost £1. Please fill in the form attached to order yours.



Santa Letter

Hunsdon Ducklings Pre-School Reg. Charity No. 1042209

Based on its success over past years, Ducklings are providing a "Letter from Santa" service again this year. We will pop a letter through your door for your precious ones to receive from Santa, plus a picture to colour in and leave out on Christmas Eve when Santa visits.

You may also wish to send one to a friend's child or a relative.

If you are interested please fill in the details required below so that we can personalise your child's letter to include their siblings or friends and return to Ducklings in the Porta-cabin. Please make sure your slips are filled in and returned no later than **Friday 10th December** to avoid any disappointment. If you require any additional forms then please ask any member of staff. Thank you.

Santa Letter

Child's name:

Address:

Names of siblings or friends:

(no more than 3).

Cost £1 per child



Ducklings Activities

Please complete below and return by Friday 26th November.

Ducklings/Toddlers Christmas Party Thursday 9th December

My child..... will/will not be attending the Christmas Party.

I will/will not be accompanying my child to the party.

Please make a note of any allergies below;

Christmas Concert Tuesday 14th December

My child..... will/will not be attending the Concert.

Last day of Term Party Tuesday 21st December

My child..... will/will not be attending the last day of term party.

Breakfast with Santa!

Each year we hold a special 'Breakfast with Santa' which is open to Ducklings and Hunsdon JMI children. This year the Breakfast will be held on **Friday 17th December 2021** in the school hall. You need to drop your child off at school by 7.45am and your child will be taken to class at 9am as per usual. The cost of Breakfast with Santa is £5 and each subsequent sibling is £4.50 to be paid in advance with the tear off slip below.

Please return all booking forms by Friday 3rd December 2021.

My child..... will be attending Breakfast with Santa @ £5.00

Sibling Name 1:..... @£4.50

Sibling Name 2:..... @£4.50

Amount Enclosed £.....

Please make a note of any allergies below;

Parent/Carer signature.....

Photography by Louise

There was a little less uptake than normal for Louise's photography session this year from Ducklings and Hunsdon JMI School, but, again Louise captured some great individual and family photos and we hope you are as pleased with them as we are!

Please remember to return all orders by Thursday 12th November.

Photography by Louise

Christmas Card List

A number of parents have asked for a list of children's names so that their child can write their Christmas cards. Please find these below.

Zac	Lexie
Carmen	Luis
Peyton	Dylan
Skylar-Rose	Zara
Noah	Harriet
Rocco	Izzy
Ellianna	Ellie
Mya	
Anthony	
Oscar	
Sienna	