



NEWSLETTER

December 2023



Primary school applications for September 2024

For all parents who have children due to commence primary school in September 2024, please ensure you have completed an application online before the deadline of 15th January 2024.

Dorset families can find further information here: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-allocations>

Somerset families can find further information here: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time/>

Important Dates

Visit the nursery website for all of our term date information
www.lowercovey.co.uk

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|--------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 22nd December | Nursery Closes at 4pm |
| Nursery Closed | 25th December 2023– 2nd January 2024 |
| Wed 3rd Jan | Nursery/ASC Opens - AYR/ASC Children return |
| Mon 8th Jan | TTO Children return |
| Mon 15th Jan | Primary School application deadline |
| 12th to 16th Feb | Half Term Week (TTO & ASC Children) |
| 13th/14th/15th Feb | Forest School Holiday Club |

DECEMBER '23 & JANUARY '24
INVOICE ISSUE DATES

NURSERY INVOICES

THROUGH THE FESTIVE SEASON, TO ASSIST WITH THE PROMPT PAYMENT OF NURSERY INVOICES AND PARENT CLAIMS VIA UNIVERSAL CREDIT, WE WILL MAKE THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ISSUE OF NURSERY INVOICES

DECEMBER '23
ISSUE DATE - 27TH NOVEMBER

JANUARY '24
ISSUE DATE - 18TH DECEMBER

INVOICES ARE DUE BY 7TH OF EACH MONTH



Thank You Father Christmas

We would like to extend our thanks to Nick Bath (Ralph's Grandad), who once again helped us with some very special visits throughout December. The children, both here at Lower Covey but also at Pear Tree in Sherborne, thoroughly enjoyed meeting Father Christmas during their Christmas parties. It was such a treat!

LOWER COVEY FOREST SCHOOL

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2024

HALF TERM (FEBRUARY)
13TH/14TH/15TH

EASTER HOLIDAY (APRIL)
2ND/3RD/4TH & 9TH/10TH/11TH

HALF TERM (MAY)
28TH/29TH/30TH

DATES FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS TBC

Forest School is for all school aged children between 4 & 11 years, please contact info@lowercovey.co.uk

Staff News

You will have seen our message last month regarding Claire's new baby, whose name is Mavis. We hope to meet her very soon but send our love to Claire and her family during this special time.

In January Jane will be reducing her working days from 3 down to 1 per week, a step closer to her retirement. Jane will be spending time with her family who live across the south of England, while continuing to support the development of the Bumblebees classroom during her time in the setting. For all of the children who currently have Jane as a key worker, further information will be issued to you directly in January when we complete the key worker transition paperwork. You will be invited in to the setting to discuss your child with Jane during the handover process; we know many of you have built a lovely relationship with her and will be sad to say goodbye to her in the key worker role.

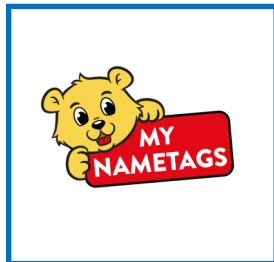
After our Christmas break we will welcome Ally Hewison to the team as a Nursery Practitioner. Ally will work with the 2 to 4 year olds and joins us from a neighbouring pre-school with experience in a senior role. We look forward to introducing her to you all in the New Year.

Clothing Labels

Over the Christmas and New Year period please could we ask you to review your child's nursery clothes and ensure they are labelled. This process helps our staff keep track of clothing items and avoid them being misplaced or muddled with others. An example of a website for clothing labels is:

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

who produce both stick and iron on versions for your preference.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support throughout the year, and for all of the lovely Christmas gifts we have received during the last two weeks. 2024 looks to be just as busy and exciting, with many events and topics planned for the children, alongside additional training opportunities for our staff to further develop their practice.

Enjoy the holidays and spending time with your families!

Employee of the Month

We are extremely lucky to employ a fantastic team of staff at Lower Covey Ltd and each of them contribute to the successful running of the setting and afterschool club.

Recently Julie and Ian introduced an 'Employee of the Month' award as a way of recognising the exceptional contributions individuals have made to or for the company.

In October we celebrated several staff members who shone throughout the summer. The winners were Lottie for her constant patience and kindness towards the team, Katie for endless positivity, Kayleigh for her continued growth as a new practitioner and Caroline for all of the support she provided her colleagues while writing assessments.

Keep an eye out for an announcement regarding our November/December Employee of the Month which will be announced at the end of this week.

As a setting we always welcome feedback so please send any comments/recommendations to us via email.



Don't forget to follow us on social media!

