



# NEWSLETTER

## Luckington Pre School Nursery

### Opening Programme

Dear Parents

Welcome to the first newsletter for our new setting in Luckington opening on MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2021.

Over the last week we have been busy giving the setting a bit of a makeover and we hope that you will like the changes that we have made.

This newsletter is to introduce you to our new staff team at Luckington and to let you know the plans and arrangements for showing you round the new setting and settling all the children before they start their normal sessions.

If any of these plans do not fit with your work commitments or holiday plans, please do get in touch with us to make alternative arrangements. With so many children all being new together we are having to approach our settling in sessions in a slightly different way to normal. We are also conscious that we need to continue to be a little bit cautious about Covid and although restrictions have now been lifted, we will be limiting the number of parents coming into the setting for show rounds at any one time.

Here at Pumpkins, we are all really excited about our new venture and we are very encouraged by the number of bookings that we have had. It is always a risk opening a new nursery but bookings have exceeded even our most optimistic forecasts with Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays now being fully booked!

We hope you like our opening plans, and we look forward to seeing you all in a few weeks' time.

Best wishes

Amanda Wallis

## Meet our Team

### NURSERY MANAGER



Shelley Spiller

NVQ Level 3

Shelley joins us from her role as Deputy Manager at Badminton where she has worked for 11 years. Shelley actually attended Luckington pre-school and Luckington school when she was a child so this is a home from home for her! Little did she think back then that sometime in the future she would be returning to run the show!

Shelley lives with her husband Mike in Badminton and has two grown up children James and Elise and one grandson, Freddy.

Shelley will also be the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator for the setting.

### DEPUTY NURSERY MANAGER/ Forest School Lead



Cheryl Oram

Level 5 Foundation Degree in Early Years

Cheryl has been with Pumpkins since it first started in 2005. In that time she has held various positions including Manager of our Tormarton nursery but since having her own family has reduced her hours and has most recently been Pre School Leader at our Badminton Nursery. Cheryl also holds a Level 3 Forest School Leader certificate and will be running our exciting Forest School sessions at Luckington. Cheryl lives in Chippenham with her husband Anthony and her two children Merryn and Jackson.



### **NURSERY SUPERVISOR**

**Gemma Burgham – Wilson**

Level 3 – Early Years and Childcare

Gemma joins us from our Tormarton nursery where she has worked as a pre-school practitioner for the last 3 years. Gemma is hugely experienced in early years and is excited to be joining the team at Luckington in her new role. A mother of two older boys Gemma lives with her husband and family in Yate.



### **EARLY YEARS PRACTITIONER**

**Kim Greville**

Level 3 Diploma in Early Years

Kim also joins us from Tormarton Nursery where she has worked in all units from babies through to pre-schoolers for the last four years.

Kim has a little boy Lucas, who himself is a Pumpkin at one of our other settings and also lives in Yate.



### **EARLY YEARS PRACTITIONER**

**Dulcie Edwards**

Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education

Dulcie is transferring over to Pumpkins from Luckington pre school and will be a familiar face to some of you.

And last but not least! For those of you who don't know me or have only met me via email this is me!



### **NURSERY OWNER**

**Amanda Wallis**

BA (Hons) DPP

I started Pumpkins 17 years ago from a room in my house in Acton Turville and have grown it to four nursery settings with approximately 50 staff in those interim years. By background is in Psychology and Education and before going into Early Years I worked in Human Resources for Asda. I have three grown up children and live with just one of them and my husband in Malmesbury, along with a vast array of animals which I'm sure you will hear about in due course.

# Luckington Opening Plan

Opening Ceremony and children's party Wednesday 1 September 10am – 12noon

Settling in sessions Thursday 2 September and Friday 3 September

AS all the children will be new starting together we will be holding our settling in sessions in small groups where you can drop your children for an hour and a half with us and pick them up later. WE will start the introductions with our party where parents will be invited to stay and have refreshments in the school grounds whilst the children come inside. This will be a chance for you to meet each other in the "Covid safe" outdoors and you will be on hand for your children if they need you. If any of the arrangements don't work for you please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

Opening Ceremony and Childrens Party

Theme "Once upon a Time"



Wednesday 1 September

10am – Cutting of the Ribbon

10am – 12 noon – Children's party/ activity morning

Please come dressed as your favourite storybook character

Parents are invited to stay for refreshments in the school gardens if they would like to. ( fingers crossed for fine weather)

## Settling In Sessions

We have divided the children into groups by age so please try to stick to the session that you have been given – we can arrange more for the week after if you think your child will need it and we will sort this out with you after the first session.

If you are transferring from one of our sister nurseries you may feel that your child will not need a settling in session in which case please let us know.

### Thursday 2 September 9am – 10.30am

Ada  
Charlie  
Emeline  
Skye  
Meredith  
Elias  
Elizabeth  
Florence Mc

### Thursday 2 September 11.00am – 12.30pm

Albie  
Danielle  
Felicity  
Freddy  
Ellis  
Lexi  
Scarlett  
Sophia

### Friday 3 September 9am – 10.30am

Pheobe  
Hattie  
Florrie  
Molly  
Jack  
Ziva  
Isabel  
Persephone



## Forest School

Forest School will be run at Luckington on a THURSDAY. Children who are aged three will spend the whole morning in the Forest and return for lunch to the pre-school followed by Forest School activities in the afternoon.

Two year old children will have a shorter introductory session – “Woodland Explorers” which will prepare them for the full forest school sessions when they are older but will still involve a trip to the forest although they wont stay out for quite as long.

We will be using the Adventure Playground in Luckington for our Forest School site and sessions will be led by Cheryl who is a qualified level 3 Forest School Leader. The site is ideal and very safe and I have included a few photos to give you an idea. This site is so accessible to the pre-school that even if your child does not attend nursery on a Thursday they will still be given opportunities to access forest school sessions on other days.



## OPEN DAYS

**Wednesday 18 August 10am - 3pm**

**Wednesday 25 August 10am - 3pm**

We have been busy since the summer term finished last week giving the setting a bit of a makeover and we hope to be able to show you the results in a couple of weeks time.

We are still mindful of Covid and therefore visirs will be by appointment only which you can book through our website after the weekend. Just pick your slot through the BOOK A VISIT tab.

<http://www.pumpkinsnursery.co.uk/our-settings/luckington-preschool-nursery/>

Please do not choose other dates as although they will come up as available no-one will be there! Visits will last 20- 30 mins and doing it this way there will be no more than 2 people in the setting at one time. Visits should be limited to one parent or double slots booked .



## Dates for your Diary

### **AUTUMN TERM 1 2021**

**Monday 6 September** – Friday 22 October 2021

**HALF TERM: Thursday 21 October – Friday 29 October 2022**

We are open All Year Round but some children on term time contract do not attend in the school holidays

### **AUTUMN TERM 2 2022**

Monday 1 November – Friday 17 December

Christmas Holiday for term time children:

Monday 20 December 2022 –Tuesday 4 January 2022



### **CHRISTMAS BREAK – Nursery Closed**

**Friday 24 December 2021 –Monday 3 January 2022**

Nursery re-opens after Christmas break on **TUESDAY 4 JANUARY 2022** - NB Term time children start back Wednesday 5 January 2022.