

A special welcome to all our new children and their parents who have settled beautifully into our 'family'. So far this term children from both settings have enjoyed their Autumn Walks, searching for items such as fir cones, conkers and leaves and listening to the sounds in the natural world. The cherubs have been exploring all kinds of messy play – scooping and mashing pumpkins, body painting, cornflour play and planting in their new outdoor area. Our annual pumpkin competition was won by Louise's group this year whose design was based on Cinderella – well done! As a direct response to children's interests, superheroes have been introduced as a major theme this term at Angels (more overleaf) and Alphabet Man is a firm favourite with our pre-schoolers.

**Thank you for your continued support in all that we do!**  
**With best wishes,**  
**Claire xx**



## Parent/Carer Newsletter Autumn 2013

Welcome to the late Autumn edition of our Parent/Carer Newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading all about the wonderful things we enjoy together...

little cherubs



little angels



### Staffing News

So far this term we've said goodbye to **Jo Bear and Lisa** and welcomed **Sarah, Lynn, Kristy and Jo W** into our team. All of our new members of the team will spend some of their time in both settings; we are planning some restructuring of staffing in the New Year, but you will be informed of this in due course, if this is likely to affect your family. **Clare Taylor** has been promoted onto the Senior Leadership Team and, on a temporary basis, **Coral** is deputising for Louise and Natalie in their absence. **Chloe** has got the pre-schoolers off to a great start on their programme, focussing on attention and listening skills in numeracy and literacy. Congratulations to **Laura** who has recently passed her Level 2 qualification with Ashton Sixth Form.

### 'Fun for the Angels and Cherubs on their Autumn Walks'



'Some of our new angels enjoying happy times!'



**Congratulations...** to big sister Eliza, Lucy, and Chris on the



birth of Alexander David Wheelton on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, weighing in at 8lb 9oz. Also congratulations to Isabelle's mummy and daddy, Clare and Stephen on their marriage in Mexico - I bet their flower girl looked beautiful!



## Child Initiated Learning

Have you got a child who is crazy about superheroes but not so about writing, mark making or holding a writing tool? We invested in some superhero capes, cuffs and masks and superhero lunchboxes (of all things) and packed them with jotters, writing tools, flashcards and pictures. Along with the weekly visit of 'Alphabet Man', it has really enhanced the angels development in literacy!



Angel Superheroes to the rescue...!

Thanks to all who helped us to beat last years total in our fundraising efforts for Children in Need. In our PJ's, onesies and fancy dress (and with some very generous donations!) we raised a total of £110. The children especially enjoyed having their faces painted!



## Changes to Attendance Patterns in the New Year

As of January, some of you will become eligible for 15 hours Free Entitlement Funding which may have an impact on your child's pattern of attendance. Similarly, some of you have already discussed with staff your plans to increase your child's sessions in the New Year. To avoid disappointment, if you envisage an increase or change to your child's sessions/days between now and July 2014, please let us now as a matter of urgency. For those claiming funding for the first time next term, you will receive a letter shortly outlining how the funding works; you don't have to do anything other than sign a form in January – we'll do the rest! Why not treat yourself to something special in the January sales with the money you'll save on fees!

## Important Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December: Transition Information Evening @ 7pm for Pre-school Parents

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December: Nativity @ 9:30am\*

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December: An Evening with Santa @ 6.30pm\*

Christmas Eve: Nursery Closes @ 1pm

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2014: Nursery Re-opens @ 7.45am

\*Tickets will be available during the first week in December for both these events but numbers are strictly limited due to fire regulations. Look out for the letter/booking form in your child's plastic wallet.



Or we might need the doctor...!



## Moving to big school...?



Applications for Reception places need to be submitted online by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2014. As a setting we seek to support children (and their parents/carers!) in ensuring that this important transition is as smooth and stress free as possible. The first stage in this is our Transition Information Evening in December, which is open to all parents/carers of children starting Reception in September 2014. The evening will provide advice on choosing a school, the application process itself and information on how we, at Little Angels, assist in preparing your child for their 'big move' and strategies you can use at home to make this new adventure an exciting one!

## Celebrating Festivals

Thank you to all who contributed to the Harvest collection of groceries which were donated to the local Food Bank. Some of our children and their families have celebrated Eid this term and Nikhita's mummy, Dee visited and helped us to make Diwali cards. We have lots of plans already in place for our Christmas celebrations! Make a note of the important diary dates featured opposite. Cast and costume lists will be published during the first week of December.

