

WINDMILL PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

February 2019



Winter Clothing and lost property

Just to remind you that your child must have a suitable coat, wellies, and if possible, their own waterproofs to wear here. The children go out in all weathers and they need to be protected from the elements! They will also need a hat and gloves. Please ensure all the above are **named**. Please make sure you take home your child's belongings, cardigans, containers from lunchboxes. We have accumulated a vast amount of unclaimed items in the box by the front door. Please check it if you think you have lost something as our normal policy is to donate lost property to charity at the end of half term.

Healthy Happy You!

We would like to thank Emily Matthews for her kind donation to the Pre-School from her event.

Lunches

Can we please remind you of our food and drink policy. We request that grapes, tomatoes and olives are cut in half to avoid Choking. No nuts or peanut butter or chocolate or sweets.

Class 2 Garden

We now have a water wall, tunnel, den, planters and large scales and have also ordered a new water table. Work has just started on the new sandpit and we look forward to seeing the finished project!

Sessions in September 2019

We are already very busy in September, particularly Class 2 so if you want to change/increase any sessions please let us know **ASAP**. We will also be continuing with Friday afternoons in September in order to offer more sessions.

Term Dates

Monday 18th-Friday 22nd February closed for half term

Closed for Easter break Friday 5th April at 12 noon

Return to Pre-School Thursday 25th April

Closed for Bank Holiday Monday Monday 6th May

Monday 27th May-Friday 31st May closed for half term

Closed for Summer break Friday 19th July at 12 noon

Other important dates

Coffee Morning - Friday 1st March 9.15-10.30am Sports & Social Club

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

Red Nose Day – Friday 15th March

Art on the Hill - Saturday & Sunday 23rd & 24th March

80's, 90's and 00's Disco – Friday 10th May

Advert for Casual Staff

We are looking for people who can offer cover when we have staff on training, parental leave, medical appointments and staff illness. The hours and days would vary depending on this and sometimes work would be offered at very short notice, however, some will be in advance. If you are interested or know someone else who could be, please let us know.

Survey Monkey Questionnaire

We would like to improve our communication with parents and carers. Please can you spare a few minutes to complete the following survey? Your responses will be completely anonymous.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H73SZDY>

Parents coming into the setting

Wanted! Every year we invite parents, carers and community groups into the Pre-School to share skills, hobbies, pets, jobs, languages etc with the children. If you or someone you know would like to come in for an hour or two or you could put us in touch with a local group, please let me know. Last year we had visits from chickens, therapy dogs, police, an Olympic clay pigeon shooting athlete. We also had a story in French and danced to some Spanish music.

Summer Playscheme

We will be operating a Summer Playscheme for two weeks from Monday 29th July to Friday 9th August. If you would like some more information, we can add your name onto our Playscheme email list. The staff team will be meeting later this month to finalise plans!

Policy of the month

This month's policy is the 'food & drink' policy and is attached to the covering email.

Recent Staff Training

Congratulations to Alina for completing her Level 2 qualification in Early Years, she has already commenced her Level 3 qualification and we know she will do well.

This month Claire attended a Wellbeing in Early Years course, Aimee attended a forest School network meeting and Alina attended Promoting Positive Behaviour training.

Class News

Class 1

The children have shown an interest in dinosaurs, we have created Dinosaur Worlds to support this. We have been creating cakes from playdough and pasta and then made cakes and banana cupcakes. We have also explored making marks in glitter, flour, rice and paint.

Class 2

Over the last month we have celebrated Australia Day and made some Lamingtons to eat and a parent also made vegemite sandwiches and Anzac biscuits. We have also celebrated Chinese New Year and made Chinese pancakes with a parent. Children have been developing their hand muscles by juicing lots of fruit! The woodwork station has been very popular so far - thank you for your donations. The children have also spent lots of time exploring our new garden resources.

Safeguarding

If you have concerns about a child you can contact First Response on the following numbers:

0845 4600 001 Out of hours: 0800 9997677 Local rate: 01296 383962

Email: secure-cypfirsresponse@buckscc.gcsx.gov.uk

