

WINDMILL PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

March 2022



Welcome to this month's newsletter.

Food Allergies

Please can we remind you not to send any food stuffs containing nuts for your child's lunch and also no hummus, sesame or avocados as we have children with allergies to all of these items. No chocolate please.

End of term

Please note that we close for Easter on **Friday 1st April at midday**. We will be sending home all belongings including wellies. We reopen on **Tuesday 26th April**.

Staffing

Aimee will be returning on Wednesday afternoons after Easter; these are her keeping in touch days.

We are very sad that Rebecca will be leaving us this summer. Rebecca has been a huge part of Windmill Pre-School and was even involved when it was playgroup over 20 years ago. Rebecca and her knowledge of the Pre-School will be missed by us all.

AGM

This will be on Thursday 5th May at 7.30pm. This is an opportunity for you to hear about what we have been doing over the past months and future plans. It is extremely important that parents attend, we will be sending the agenda and associated papers out nearer the time.

Lost property

We have a lot of lost property, please check through the tub located by the main entrance, before we close for Easter. Anything remaining will go into our spare clothing.

Term Dates 2021/2022

Friday 1st April – close at midday – different to school

Easter break Monday 4th – Friday 22nd April

Inset day Monday 25th April – pupils return Tuesday 26th April

Half term Monday 30th May- Friday 3rd June

Monday 6th June – Wednesday 20th July – finish at midday

Other Dates:

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 5th May 2022 – 7.30pm

Forest School

Class 2 will be changing Forest School days to **Wednesday** and **Thursday** after Easter. Class 1 will go on a **Tuesday**.

Parent/carer Facebook page

If you would like to join our closed Facebook page, please send a request via the following link.

[Windmill Pre School parents and carers | Facebook](#)

Wanted

Can you donate any of the following items?

- Seeds
- Compost
- Plant pots
- Plants/herbs

Bag Sharing Library

Last year the staff put together some bags for families to borrow. The titles include: Dinosaur Adventure stencils, Nature Hunt, If you see a Crocodile, The Tiger who came to tea, Dear Zoo, Peace at Last - they have activities to do at home and there is no time limit to borrowing them. Please ask a member of staff for more information or to borrow one.

Parent surveys

Operational hours - Only a very small number of families would use extended hours (7.30am - 3.30pm) if we were to offer them. Currently this would not be financially viable for the Pre-School. Please do keep us updated if your circumstances change and you would like extended hours.

Communication survey - Unfortunately we only received 4 responses to our communication survey. However, those received were positive and felt that communication was currently good. We are now adding Class 2 book of the week to Tapestry as requested and we are working on a way to put staff information out for you to see.

We are currently exploring an APP that would allow us to send you messages, it is similar to WhatsApp but more secure.

If you do have any suggestions/comments re: communication please do let us know.

Amazon wishlist

Thank you for all of the generous donations from our wish list. We have not been able to do as much fundraising as we need to and these donations really help.

Ukraine conflict

The invasion of Ukraine is a deeply disturbing development. Anna Freud, as a mental health charity, knows that the psychological impact of war can be felt sometimes for generations. They are working towards developing a greater understanding of trauma and the impact on children and families. The [UK Trauma Council](#), founded by the Anna Freud Centre, includes general information about the impact of trauma. They have also had specific requests for advice on how to best respond to our children's natural curiosity and growing anxiety around the conflict in Ukraine. In response, they have developed some useful suggestions with [BBC Bitesize](#) for parents and carers, which you may wish to read.

Tamsin Grimmer shares her ideas about how parents/carers and educators of young children can respond in relation to war in the leaflet below:



War Leaflet
final.pdf

The government have also published guidance [Ukraine: what you can do to help](#)

Internet Safety

Please see the link below to help you with internet safety for younger children.
<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/0-5/#issues>

Safeguarding

[Report a concern](#)

If you are worried about a child it's important to raise your concerns.
If you think that a child you know is in immediate danger, **call the Police straight away 999.**

[First Response Team](#)

You can raise any concerns with the First Response Team. Buckinghamshire Children's Services have a team that are there to help you. You can also discuss any concerns by contacting First Response.

Telephone: 01296 383 962, Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5.30pm or Friday 9am to 5pm

For more information and advice please click on the link below

<https://www.buckssafeguarding.org.uk/childrenpartnership/parent-and-carers/>