

WINDMILL PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

May 2019



Transition

Those children moving from Class 1 up to Class 2 in September will be invited to spend time in Class 2 over the next half term. Claire and Caroline will also spend time in Class 1 getting to know the children. We are hoping to offer a session to all the children starting in Class 2 on the same morning as the school 'moving up' day, details will be confirmed once we have confirmation from Brill School. We would also like to invite parents in to meet Claire and Caroline to ask any questions they may have regarding the transition. Please do let us know if you would like to arrange an appointment.

Most of the children in Class 2 will be moving onto various primary schools. Caroline has been in contact with all of the schools that we are aware of, if your child is not moving onto Brill School and we have not spoken to you please do speak to us. All School Teacher's have been invited into Pre-School to meet the children and spend time with them. We will also use the Brill School Reception classroom one afternoon a week to familiarise the children with the environment. We will be setting up a school 'home corner', this will include uniform from each school and photos of the teachers and the settings. More details regarding the transition will follow in a separate letter.

Parent consultations

If you have not yet responded to the email asking for your preference regarding a parent's consultation, please do so by Monday 3rd June. Those who have expressed a preference will be offered first choice of consultation times.

Term Dates

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

Closed for Summer
break Friday 19th July
at 12 noon

Open for Autumn term

Thursday 5th
September

Half term Monday 28th
October-Friday 1st
November

Close for Christmas

Friday 13th December
at 12 noon

Other important dates

Flower Picking Howe
Farm – Monday 10th
June

Strawberry Fayre -
Thursday 20th June -
3.00pm- 4.30pm

Thomley Hall visit -
Wednesday 26th June

Leavers' Photos – 28th
June

Sports Day – Monday
8th July

Leavers' Afternoon Tea
– Thursday 18th July

Sports day

Sports day will be on **Monday 8th July** this year. It will start at 9.15am and is for both classes. Parents, carers, siblings and extended family are invited to join us.

Leavers' Afternoon Tea

This year the Class 2 leavers will be inviting parents and carers to share an afternoon tea with them on **Thursday 18th July at 2pm**. We will provide sandwiches and cakes for you to share with the children and the children will sing you one or two of their favourite songs. At the end of the celebration we will present each child with a story book. More details to follow.

Flower picking event

Amber Partner will be hosting a fundraising event at Howe farm on **Monday 10th June**. You will be able to pick a bucket of flowers and all money raised will be donated to Pre-School to put towards our Class 1 garden revamp!

Disco

Thank you to everyone who came to the disco and made the event so much fun! Thank you to Gareth Hamilton, The Pointer, The Pheasant, James Smith (Planning Law Services) Ltd., Sarah Thorne for posters, Brill photography and all those who sold tickets, promoted the event, decorated, sat on the ticket desk and tidied at the end. We haven't been able to finalise the exact amount raised but it will hopefully be in excess of £500!

Strawberry Fayre

This year it will be on **Thursday 20th June**. We will need donations of cakes, prizes for the tombola etc.

Can anyone help set up, run a stall or helping to tidy at the end? Full details will be sent out soon.

Woodwork area

We have a lovely new shelter for Class 2's woodwork bench. Thank you to Luke and Bansi Eggerton for supplying and fitting it for us.

Thomley Hall Trip

The trip will be on **Wednesday 26th June**, Pre-School will be **closed** that day. If you haven't already done so, please respond to the recent email.

Leavers photos

All of the Class 2 children are invited in for a whole class and individual photos on **Friday 28th June**. If this is not your child's normal session you will need to stay with them.

Summer clothing

Now that the weather is improving!! The children will need a sun hat and sun cream in Pre-School. Please ensure these are named. If the weather is going to be warm, we do ask that children come in with sun cream already applied in the morning and we will reapply at lunchtime.

Forest School

Please make sure that children come into Pre-School ready to go to Forest school. All children need to have legs and arms covered before putting on waterproofs to prevent any stings or prickles. When we go to Forest School it is much cooler due to being under the trees but if the children do get warm, they can remove their waterproofs which would leave legs and arms exposed if they have shorts or a t-shirt on. Children can change into summer clothing when we return to Pre-School.

Class 2 Forest School day - Tuesday Class 1 - Forest School day - Friday

New blog and WhatsApp

We now have a Pre-School WhatsApp group up and running, if you would like to join please do let us know. If you have joined the group already, please feel free to add any comments.

We have also set up a weekly blog and the link is emailed at the end of the week, please do let us know if this is helpful.

Lost property

We are still getting lots of unnamed lost property. Please do label all of your child's belonging and we will return them to your child's peg or tray. Everything else is hung from the washing line (in dry weather) and the lost bottles and Tupperware are placed nearby.

Summer Play Scheme

Some sessions are already full for the play scheme, if you would like to send your child please do let us know as soon as possible.

Policy of the month

Updated Settling in Policy which is an attachment to the email

Recent staff training

Alina has attended opening minds, opening doors training regarding inclusion

Katie and Alina have attended Understanding the World using Natural Curiosity

The whole team attended Helicopter Stories training with Trisha Lee.

No dogs Please!

Can we remind you not to bring dogs down to Pre-School. They aren't allowed on School premises at all so if you do have a dog with you please leave them by the gate to the main field area, near the tennis court.

Parking!

You will be aware that the parking in The Firs is extremely limited and those of you with children at Brill School will know they have recently sent out a communication about not parking anywhere near the school. The road is too narrow and the only parking available is for staff and visitors.

Please help us support Brill School by not parking any nearer than The Green, at the entrance to The Firs. We appreciate it is hard when you have a younger child to transport as well but we have had complaints from local residents who are finding cars blocking their driveways.

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

Class News

Class 1

In the home corner the children have been pretending to make dinner or cakes. We have followed this interest by doing some baking. So far we have made savoury muffins and pizzas. We have had a visit from lambs and have been very excited by finding insects in the garden. We have started going to Forest School and the children have been busy exploring the area. They have been involved in lots of role play with a bear.

Class 2

We have been watching the tadpoles closely and they are growing very big! We have waiting very patiently for the chicks to hatch and currently have four. We have been busy planting, including potatoes, tomatoes and strawberries. We have started our cake making station, this has been very popular with the children and they are almost able to make them without the help from an adult!