

WINDMILL PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

November 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. We currently have a child with an allergy to eggs and fish, **please do not include any eggs or fish in your child's lunch**. No chocolate or sweets please.

End of term

Please note that we close for Christmas on Friday 16th December at **midday**. We will be sending home all belongings including wellies. We reopen on Thursday 5th January 2023.

Staffing

We would like to congratulate Cayley on passing her level 3 qualification.

Planning in the moment

Please find attached an information sheet regarding how we plan at Pre-School.

The Curiosity Approach

Most of you will be aware that we started our accreditation before the summer. Please find attached further information about the approach and how we will be implementing it.

Pre-School improvements

We are delighted with our new heaters in both classrooms, we can now control the heat to help keep the rooms at a comfortable temperature.

Term Dates 2022/2023

Pre-School closes Friday 16th December at **midday**

Wednesday 4th January Inset day

Thursday 5th January pupils return

Half term Monday 13th-19th February

Re-open Monday 20th February

Pre-School closes Friday 31st March – finish **midday**

Easter holiday Monday 3rd – Friday 14th April

Monday 17th April Inset day

Pupils return Tuesday 18th April

Half term Monday 29th May- Friday 2nd June

Pre-School closes Friday 14th July - finish **midday**

Important dates

Mon 7th Nov – class 2 visit to Brill park

Fri 18th Nov – Children in need. Children are invited to dress up if they wish.

Thurs 24th Nov – Litter pick

Thurs 8th Dec – Christmas songs

Fri 9th Dec – Christmas jumper day

This month we are also having the whole exterior painted, a new worktop in the kitchen, Class 1's shed re-felted, gutters cleared.

Fundraising

We are pleased to announce that we raised an incredible £2000 at the Brill fete this year. This is a huge amount of money that we will use to purchase an art studio.

We would like to thank all the volunteers, especially the Committee.

Our next event will be Christmas trees! If you would like to help the Committee with raising money for Pre-School, please do get in touch. Please find attached a poster re: ordering your own tree from Pre-School.

Litter pick

As part of our Eco School award, we will be hosting a litter pick morning this year. Please see the leaflet attached. Everyone is welcome to attend, if it is not your child's usual day you will need to accompany them, please.

Christmas songs

This year we plan to sing our Christmas songs in Brill Church, this will take place on Thursday 15th December at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Parent/carer consultations

Please do let us know if you would like to book a 15 minute appointment with your child's key person.

Parent/carer questionnaire results

We received 7 responses out of a possible 37

1. What information would you like from us?

85.7% what my child has been doing at Pre-School

42.9% activities we can try at home

14.3% Courses/advice from outside agencies

57.1% Info events run by Pre-School

2. We would like you to share information on your child's development, interests and important events from home. How would you like to share these?

85.7% Tapestry Observations

42.9% Email

42.9% face to face

3. We would like parents and family members to spend time in the Pre-School. Would you consider any of the following?

85.7% Reading stories to the children

14.3% cooking/baking

100% Attending local outings

14.3% singing/dancing

14.3% Sharing a special skill

28.6% planting/gardening

0% Bringing in a pet/animal

4. Any other comments/suggestions

"It's always lovely to see what the children have been up to in preschool on Tapestry and the ladies are very good at telling me stories of the day at pick up"

"I think you are all doing a brilliant job and your communication is great. I'm please you explained the gems/questions in an email as sometimes with the rush of pick up etc I don't notice things like that so the more communication via email the better"

"I heard about another preschool which organizes themed weeks, such as Harvest, or King's and Queens, which I thought was a nice idea"

Action;

1. We are planning some information events, details will be circulated for these before Christmas. We also add some activities to try at home to Tapestry and our facebook page. We provide resources for families to borrow. We complete the 'today we...' chalk board, provide face to face feedback and Tapestry to update you on what your child has been doing. If you have any further suggestions, please do let us know.
2. If you would like to upload any information to Tapestry or send us an email to share with your child's key person, please do. If you have any questions about this, please speak to your child's key person.
3. Please do contact us to arrange a time to come into the setting.
4. Themes - as a setting we do not set themes but instead follow the children's interests. This ensures that all of the children are highly motivated and curious, when they do not have an interest in a topic children can disengage. Recently in Class 2 the children have shown an interest in the room on the broom story, this has developed through acting it out with props and will be extended through making potions.

Parent/carers question by the front door

Last month we asked, "Have you borrowed a sharing bag?" Two indicated they had and one had not. We would be interested to know how we could improve the bags on offer to appeal to more families. Please do let us know.

We now have a new question by the front door, we appreciate you taking the time to read and respond to it.

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](#)

Wish tree and Amazon wish list

Thank you for all the kind donations from our wish tree by the front door and our Amazon list.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2WEI95KG2RYI9?ref=wl_share

Internet Safety

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/0-5/> for further information.

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/>