
WINDMILL PRE-SCHOOL NEWS



September 2018

Welcome!

Welcome to our new children and their families and our returning families this term! We had a busy end to the year which resulted in a visit from Ofsted, we were delighted with the report and to have been awarded with Outstanding!

Parent/Carer Facebook Page

We update this weekly with photos of the activities, please make sure you have returned the consent form sent out at the beginning of this term so we can add you on.

Sharing Library

The little wooden house to the right of the front door is our Sharing Library and you are very welcome take a book home or add any preloved books for other people to take.

Fruit in a box!

Please feel free to help yourself to the fruit which is in the box outside the front door. We receive a regular donation from Tesco each week and have more than we need.

Winter Clothing

We know the weather is a bit changeable at present, but 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 outside all the time and they need to be protected from the elements! Later on when it gets cold they will also need a hat, scarf and gloves.

Please ensure all the above items are **named**.

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

Term dates

Monday 22nd Oct - Friday 26th Oct closed for half term

Close for Christmas break Friday 14th December at **12 noon**

Return to Pre-School Tuesday 8th January

Monday 18th Feb - Friday 22nd Feb 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 - 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

Cake sale – 9th October 3pm

had complaints from local residents who are finding cars blocking their driveways.

Lost Property

Following on from the above, please make sure you take home your child's belongings, cardigans, containers from lunchboxes etc. We ended up with a startling amount of items at the end of last term which remained unclaimed. Our normal policy is to donate lost property to charity at the end of half term.

Communication

To make sure you are up to date with information, please make sure you check your child's tray for letters & forms and read any emails. We also display a chalkboard outside the front door to let you know what the classes have been doing each day.

Class 2 Home/School Diaries

For those of you whose child has moved over from Class 1, please make sure you bring in their Home/School diary and let the staff know if you need a new one. They need to go into the white basket by the classroom door and will be placed back into children's trays once they have been completed.

Class 1 Information

Wellies - For ease of use, all Class 1 children's wellies will be kept on the shelving unit by the classroom's garden door.

Communication Diary - Please ensure that your child's blue Communication diary is left in their tray every session.

Family Photo – Please can you provide us with a photograph of your family so we can display it in the Class. You are welcome to send it via email or bring one in.

How we can improve

In order to maintain our standards and to constantly improve, please feel free to complete a Comment/Suggestion slip which can be anonymous, and post it into the Red Box by the front door.

Help!

If you are able to help us by going on a tip run with unwanted/broken items, donating compost, plants etc please let us know. We will also be adding a donation tree by the entrance to display items that we regularly need such as baby wipes.

Garden Improvement Plans

Following on from last year we will continue to raise money to improve both gardens. We have currently raised £2000 and will find out where we came in the Tesco bags for help at the end of the month. We have consulted with Cool Canvas and put forward ideas from the children and parents. When we have a design and costings this will be shared with you all. Over the summer the Pre-School staff volunteered time to help maintain and tidy up the gardens. This included taking down the old swing frame, replacing the blue shed with two smaller sheds for dressing up and mark making, adding plants and herbs, building cosy areas and a new mark making board.

We still need to raise a significant amount of money and our Christmas Fayre will be taking place in December. Please do let us know if you can help on the day, particularly with manning a stall. If we do not have enough volunteers, we will be unable to host this event.

We also have a just giving page, this can be found at:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/wpsbrill?utm_term=bkpJdrRdK

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

Policy of the Month

The policy this month is our Health Policy. Please find it attached to this email.

Use of Calpol

If you have given your child Calpol before a session it is likely they shouldn't be coming into Pre-School at all. If they are feeling poorly and the effects of the medication wears off we will probably have to contact you to ask you to collect them.

Staff vacancy

We have an opportunity for casual Early Years Practitioners to join our team at Windmill Pre-School. Experience and qualifications in early years are desirable, however we are keen to hear from anyone who is passionate, reliable and enthusiastic to join our friendly team. We are open Monday - Friday, term time only and welcome applications from people who can work every day to those who can work one or two mornings a week to cover staff training and/or sickness. Please let us know if you would be interested!

Friday Afternoons

We will be opening all day on a Friday after Christmas. If you haven't already put your child's name down for this and you would like them to attend please let us know as soon as possible.

Cake Sale

The next Cake Sale will be on Tuesday 9th October at 3pm. We regularly organize these to raise funds for the Pre-School. They are held on the area just inside the playing field by the school. We are looking for donations of cakes and biscuits please, the money will be put towards our garden project.

Class News

Class 1

The children have shown interest in sensory play outside. To support this interest, and to help them settle into Pre-School, inside we have provided water and sand and cooked spaghetti. The children have been showing an interest in vehicles and as a result of this they have built a fire engine outside using our loose parts.

Class 2

The children have enjoyed dressing up as Super Heroes, playing with dinosaurs and making cakes. In the garden they have been making mud pies in the Mud Kitchen and jumping in muddy puddles. They have also spent time building creations inside and outside with the large building blocks.