



NEWSLETTER MONDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2019

Welcome back everyone - we hope you all had a relaxing half term break! Here's some news for the coming half term.

Welcome to our new starter Pip.

Term dates:

Spring term: Mon 25 Feb – Fri 05 Apr

Summer term: Tues 23 Apr – Fri 24 May
Mon 03 Jun – Mon 22 July
Bank holiday Mon 6 May

Contact details

Our contact details are:

Landline: 01483 565343

Mobile: 07510 254313

Email: info@childsplaypreschool.co.uk

Please put these numbers in your phone and please make sure we have your correct contact details

It is very important that we are able to contact you at all times. We have had many instances when children have been unwell and we have been unable to make contact with parents.

Likewise, please make sure that whoever is picking up your child has their phone with them and that it is switched on. And if you are going to be late, or the person collecting is going to be late, please tell us. We can deal with situations if we know what is happening.

Parent consultations – week beg 4 March

This is next week and is for the January starters only. We will put a sign-up sheet out this week so please sign up if you would like an appointment.

Music

The children thoroughly enjoyed music last half term, singing about the weather. This half term our theme is "Farmyard animals". This is going to be great fun as we have whistles that sound just like

ducks; Mr Frog will be coming along to the session and lots more! We will also be carrying on with our single letter Jolly Phonics sounds.

Comic Relief – Friday 15th March

We would like the children to come in in their Pyjamas on Friday 15th, with a £2 donation for Comic Relief. We will also be running a small cake sale at 12.30 pm that day.

Topics

Running throughout the half term our topic is all about books and reading. This week we are focusing on "We're Going on a Bear Hunt". The following weeks will be:

Superworm, The Gruffalo, Owl Babies, Oliver's Vegetables, with the final week voted for by the children.

World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March, so please could everyone come dressed as their favourite book character that day.

Sound of the week

We start this week with "u" for umbrella

The rest of the half term will be:

25 Feb – "u" for umbrella

4 March - "v" for violin

10 March – "w" for wellies

17 March – "x" for box

24 March – "y" for yellow

1 April – "z" for zebra

It would be great if the children could bring in items from home beginning with these sounds each week. They should put them in the yellow tray by the kitchen area. We will talk about sound of the week at storytime.

Homework books

Lots of you are already using these but we'd like a few more, especially of the older children – those starting school in September – to join in. You would take a "homework book" home on your child's last day of the week, work on next week's sound over the weekend and bring it back in when your child is next in the following week. The children could draw pictures, find pictures in magazines to stick in etc all connected with the sound of the week. They would then bring it in and show it to the other children at story time. There is no compulsion on this, but if you think your child would enjoy having a "homework book" let your key person know and they will get one for you.

Monthly Family project

The theme for this board will change each month, and we will let you know the themes via Tapestry. The idea is that the children make a picture at home

– any kind of picture they like – based around the monthly theme. We will display them all on the board to make a fabulous display of artwork.

Forest School session for younger children

We now have enough interest to run this session after Easter - it will run within the Friday morning session. We will be in touch with those of you who expressed an interest to arrange a short information meeting, where Natalie will explain a bit about Forest School. We have re-stocked with rucksacks so there will be plenty available to buy. Meanwhile, our Forest School Parent Information book is on our website so please do have a look through it, especially at the kit list.

<https://www.childsplaypreschool.co.uk/docs/parent%20information%202018%20version.pdf>

Trays

Please check your child's tray each morning when you drop off to avoid them having too many things to manage at hometime. If things hang around in trays for long periods they invariably get lost!

Parking

The usual reminder about parking only in the bays marked in white. The yellow marked bays are contract spaces and are all owned by someone.

Craft items

We are always grateful for any spare craft items for the free expression table – the children love exploring different textures and fabrics etc. Also, spare newspaper is also welcome for protecting the floor.

In particular, we would like each child to bring in the flat part of a cardboard egg box for an activity we have lined up in "Owl Babies" week.

Sugar

Surrey CC are concerned that Surrey is above the national average for tooth decay in pre-school children. We intend to give this a lot of focus in the Summer term, particularly as it includes "National Smile Month" 😊. In the meantime, Surrey CC have asked us to point parents in the direction of the NHS "change4life" website, which has lots of ideas for sugar swaps etc and has a useful app which can tell you what's really inside any barcoded food item. You can use it when shopping to make more informed choices. We may try it out on the lunchboxes.....

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts/sugar#be-food-smart-app>

Recycling

Unfortunately at Pre-School we don't have access to the recycling bins that we all have at home. The vast majority of our rubbish comes from the children's lunch boxes and much of that can be recycled. So we have decided to send all of the waste home with the lunchboxes rather than putting recyclable materials in the rubbish. So apologies in advance if this means the lunchboxes need more cleaning, but it is for the greater good!

We will also be looking next term at the concept of recycling with the children - what things can be re-used or recycled - so we would greatly appreciate it if you could have this thought in mind when thinking about what to put in lunch boxes.

Holiday dates

If you know you are going on holiday during term time, please could you let us know in advance.

Nanny available

Molly Badcock's ex nanny, who comes highly recommend, is looking for part time nanny work between now and September (term time only) when she starts university. If you're interested in 2-3 days per week, contact Alex directly on 07545346400.

And as always.....

Food and drink

Please remember to bring a **named** water bottle - water only though please, no juice and a packed lunch. **No nuts of any kind please.**

And, please, please, can you make sure if your child has grapes (or tomatoes etc) that they are cut in half.

Also please ensure all coats, hats, gloves etc are **named**. We waste a lot of time trying to sort out unnamed clothing and containers!

Birthdays

Please remember you need to bring cakes in for your own child's birthday. It is probably a good idea to check with us the week prior to the birthday as there are sometimes weeks when birthdays coincide. We can then put you in touch with other parents to share the workload. The number of cakes needed varies depending on which day of the week it is.

Toilets at drop off time

If your child needs the toilet at drop off can you either get them to go by themselves, or ask a member of staff to take them. We do not want

parents going into the toilets as it can be uncomfortable for some children to have an adult who they do not know in the toilet area when they are going to the toilet.

Twitter

Please follow us on Twitter (@infochildisplay). Just follow the link on our website:

<http://www.childisplaypreschool.co.uk/>

Useful links

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the “Curriculum” we work to (as do all Early Years providers). Here is a Parents Guide to the EYFS which includes simple explanations of the goals we use for each age group.

https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/09/4Children_ParentsGuide_Sept_2015v4WEB1.pdf

Surrey Family Information Service – has lots of information on a range of issues eg education, childcare, support services.

<http://new.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/family-information-service>

In particular they have a useful booklet on “Getting Ready for School”:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/family-information-service/publications-for-families/getting-ready-for-school-booklet>

Also, Surrey Children’s Therapies which has lots of information on Speech and Language therapy, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy resources.

<http://www.surreychildrenstherapies.co.uk/>

Surrey CC Early Years and Childcare Service have developed some lovely leaflets to provide parents with useful information on how you can support your child’s development. They cover speech, reading, counting, physical development, emotional development etc. and are well worth a look.

<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/family-information-service/education-and-learning-advice-for-families/early-learning>

Thea and Susan