

Playwell Pre-school Newsletter



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April 2016

Dates for this term

Last Day of term – Friday 27th May

Back to school – Monday 6th June

Bank Holiday – Monday 2nd May

Closed for polling – Thursday 5th May

Photographer – Friday 20th May

Last term

Last term we celebrated Mother's day, St Patrick's day, St David's day and Easter. Schoolwork has been ongoing for the children heading for Reception class. They are all enjoying it and their work is going into their records for you to take before they leave us. If you want to see it, just ask your keyworker.

We were also concentrating on how we play together and being kind. We took the opportunity to be outside nearly every day and we had fun planting new plants and looking for minibeasts.

Questionnaires

We would like to thank you if you took the time to fill out our questionnaires. They really do help us to evaluate our practice and gives us an insight into what our parents and carers expect from us. The results were very positive-

- Many parents had noted that their child has gained confidence whilst being with us.
- Staff are approachable and caring.
- Fantastic activities.

Child's progress

You are welcome at any time to approach your keyworker, or any other member of staff to discuss your child. Our job is to discuss any issues you have with your child's development and although each keyworker has between 6 and 9 children and may

not have the time to approach you every day with updates, you are welcome to approach them.

Autumn parent meeting

The records that we write on your child are not started until they have been with us for 6 weeks. This is the same across the Foundation stage as the children are still 'finding their feet' and would not be a true account of their development. You can request a meeting with your keyworker with anything you would like to discuss. If your keyworker has any concerns at this time, she will have an informal chat with you.

Available information

Some of you were not sure of information on the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage). We have a lovely wallboard with photos explaining what our job is in the foundation stage and what we are teaching your children and we also have an information folder for you to take a look at in the back hall. If you would like more information let us know and we can source some for you.

Boisterous boys

The boys are into playing superheroes, power rangers and share ideas and games really well. There are moments when it gets a little silly and these are dealt with swiftly and gently.

Phonics, shapes etc.

This is being done at schoolwork and is age and developmental appropriate. We are here to get your children ready for Reception class and they will do this more in depth at school.

Outside area and growing things

This is a great time of year for gardening, so we look forward to planting and watering! We make the best of outside as much as we can even though we would love a bigger space.

Collecting artwork

Unfortunately we do not have the space to keep the children's work for a week. The children are very proud of their work and want to take it home on the same day. It is, of course, your choice if you wish to take it.

We love working with your children and we are very proud of them and what they achieve.

Closures

This term is always a difficult term for closures. We are required to close for voting for the mayoral elections on Thursday 5th May. We will also be closed on Thursday 23rd June due to the EU referendum but we have arranged with the Church that we will hold our inset day on this day. We will therefore be open on the first Monday of the term which is the 6th of June. If you have any questions please speak to Julie.

Fund raising

We haven't done any fundraising for a long while, so we thought that we would have a cake sale to raise some money to buy another iPad. The cake sale will be on Monday 25th April and we ask you make or buy some cakes to bring in for us to sell.

May the 4th be with you

On May 4th we will be having a Star Wars day. If your child would like to dress up as a Star Wars character we would love to see them dressed up.

Spring walk

We are hoping to go on a Spring walk on Monday 9th May during the morning session. If your child does not attend a Monday morning but you would like to come on the walk please let a member of staff know. To enable us to walk safely we need parents to come with us. If you can come please let us know, unfortunately younger children will not be able to come with us.

Sainsbury's vouchers

We are collecting the Sainsbury's vouchers so please remember us at the till.

Buggies

You are welcome to leave your buggy with us but can we please ask you fold them as they do take up a lot of space.

If you are interested in spending some time with us please sign up for our Parent rota. There is one in the friendship center and one by the back door. We love having parents in as it does help to develop great relationships between staff, parents and carers.

Don't forget- we are available at all times if you have any concerns or worries regarding your child.

Thank you, The Playwell team