

CHOLSEY PRE-SCHOOL

Newsletter 2
September 18th

This week we have.....

Started to get into the Pre-School routine and have also been learning about rules and boundaries. We discuss rules and boundaries with the children and they also tell us what rules they would like in place to keep them safe.

Been making the most of this glorious September weather and the children have been making water slides with the guttering and tubes outside. This shows lots of creative thinking and problem solving, which has been lovely to see.

Been watering the seeds that were planted and speaking and learning about how to nurture them. Plants and planting are going to play a big part in what we offer at Pre-School and it is great to see the Children already showing interest in this.

Some children made their own version of Table Tennis inside using resources they found. Again, this shows creative thinking and also helped them with mark making as they were using chalk boards to score.

Been using the large wooden blocks inside to do lots of building with, they have also added loose parts to their play to enable them to extend it.

Really enjoyed mark making using the light boards, these boards have various coloured lights behind the screen and they can use the chalk pens to mark make and then change the colours behind their creations.

Seen some wonderful role play in the home area, cafes being designed and wonderful foods such as soup and steak sandwiches being made with lots of cups of coffee being handed out to the Pre-School team, we are very lucky to be looked after by your children.

Session Availability

We now have some session availability on some afternoon including a Friday afternoon, these will be on a first come first served basis, please contact us by email if you require anymore sessions.

Website

Did you know our Website has a lot of information on it?

It tells you about our Pre-School Team, Safeguarding, our Curriculum, what we do and any upcoming events.

It also has information regarding home learning, recipe ideas for healthy eating, exercise ideas for healthy bodies and minds and School Readiness.

Our Parents Library is expanding and has tips and ideas for all sorts of subjects from help with toileting to stopping smoking.

If you haven't had a look yet, please do.

Dates for your Diary (please check Newsletters and online Notice Board for updates)

Half Term

Pre-School Finishes 11.45 am 23rd October.

Pre-School Starts Monday 2nd November

Christmas Holiday

Pre-School Finishes 11.45 am 18th December

Pre-School Starts Monday 4th January

Contacting Us

If you need to contact us please either telephone or email. If it is urgent then please telephone us on 07584258009. The emails are not monitored all the time on some days there may be a delay in response.

Please do contact us if your child will not be in Pre-School on that day.

Our working hours:

Monday - Friday 8.30 - 4.30pm

Saturday - Sunday We are closed

We need to make you aware of our working hours, emails or phone calls sent out of hours will not be dealt with until our return. This is to make sure all staff have a proper break.

Reminders

We work alongside Cholsey Primary School and we need to remind all our Parents/Carers of some requests to make coming to Pre-School and leaving safe.

Social Distancing should be adhered to and we all need to do our part to keep ourselves and others safe.

The pavements are busy so can you please make sure children are kept with you and are not running ahead.

We ask that you do not bring Scooters and Bikes to Pre-School.

Only one Parent/Carer to pick up and drop off. If any siblings are with you during these times please make sure they stay with you and do not play on the Pre-School equipment.

We cannot have any toys from home in Pre-School sadly.

Please do park sensibly and not outside of the School gates, parking is available outside of the Church.

Hygge

We know we have told you about Hygge and how we are working towards becoming an accredited setting. You maybe wondering what it is all about and what has changed.

What is Hygge? It is a Danish Word (pronounced hue-guh) and roughly translates to a Quality of Cosiness, it's about slowing down and being in the present moment and feeling joy in things we do, whether that is being outside or snuggling with a book.

We wanted to have a Pre-School that was a calm and homely place for the Children to come and belong to. We also realised we needed to slow things down a little, and do the best we possibly can for our Children's wellbeing, our families wellbeing and our staffs wellbeing.

The start of this process involved 4 of our team members taking a course during lockdown with Kimberly Smith, this wonderful new way of being really made us all think and discuss what we thought of our setting. Then the Guidelines came out in order for us to re-open in small Bubbles before the Summer Holidays, we could have thought it was impossible to provide the best care for our Children given all the new rules; Instead we implemented some of the Hygge way of being and discovered the Children in the Bubble's responded in a great way.

Taking from this, Pre-School had a makeover over the Summer Holidays, we took the posters and laminated information down, we made the room feel calmer and introduced natural elements and plants, soft lighting and we removed some of the toys!!! Instead we put in a lot more 'Loose Parts' (We will talk about this another time), we focused on the less is more approach and an increased emphasis on outside play.

We also focus on the Child's wellbeing by promoting Healthy Eating, Healthy Bodies and a Healthy Mind. We have regular Music and Movement activities and have already introduced the Children to Yoga and Meditation (or relaxation as we call it).

Throughout your time at Pre-School we will focus on particular parts of what we do so we can explain them properly and you can decide if you would like to implement them into your home routine.