

PRE-SCHOOL

This week we have.....

Once again been focusing on settling in and building attachments.

Seen some truly wonderful playing.

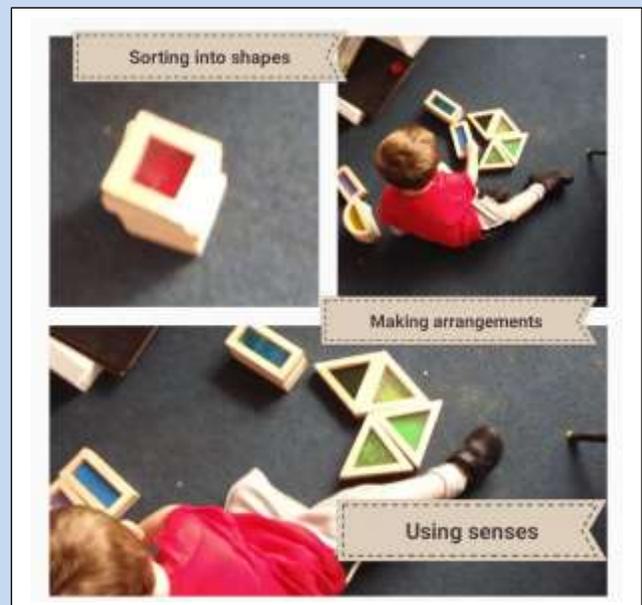
Been busy in the outside kitchen, making delicious cakes and other goodies. Using loose parts such as dried lavender to add to their creations.

Been making tunnels and castles in the sandpit.

Been playing with the dolls, we had tea parties and went to the café.

Been very creative using glue, loose parts and scissors to create artistic masterpieces.

Relaxed after lunch by listening to some relaxation music and doing some nice breaths in through our nose and out through our mouth.



Reminders

Please can we ask that you put your child's name on everything! Water bottles, clothes, shoes and so on. It makes it easier for us to find their owners, especially if we have 3 Pre-School hoodies thrown on the floor with no names in.

Apologies last week the link for the Journals wasn't working. What we have done is added them to the wish list, so if you purchase one off of there.

<https://amzn.eu/d6lZilh>

Please do also take a look at our Facebook page where we post helpful information for you and your families.

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

Half Term

Monday 25th October – 2nd November.

Pre-School starts Wednesday 3rd November.

Christmas Holidays

Pre-School finishes Friday 17th December at 11.45am

Pre-School starts January 4th.

Fundraising

As you know we are a Charity run Pre-School, which means we rely on fundraising, donations and so on to keep running.

Sadly, the funding the Government pass onto us for the 'free' hours isn't enough. Pre-Schools and nurseries across the country are trying to make those in Government aware of how critical proper funding is needed. After all pens, paper, toilet roll etc etc all cost money!

In the mean time we rely on you to help us.

Ways you can do this are:

Amazon wish list, we post various items for the Pre-School on here. <https://amzn.eu/d6lZilh>

Give as you live:

https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/cholsey-preschool?fbclid=IwAR1e_UFAIVBm7nfcZG_-DJKNKiTl3s1fG4EENG58QfGKG8ZNd_V2Eb5FEa

Your School Lottery:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/cholsey-preschool>

And helping with various fundraising events.

The next one we have coming up is the CHOKO Beer Festival, we still need help with this.

Without this help we would not be able to provide resources to give your child the best start in Early Years learning.

Separation Anxiety

Separation from a parent/carer is the hardest attachment to overcome, as Early Years practitioners we understand this process and we are also aware it isn't as easy for you their parents/carers.

Children can express anxiety in many different ways, some may use food as a way to control situations, some may not eat as much as they would at home. Their toilet routine may change, they may have more wetting accidents for example. They may revert back to more 'baby' behaviours as this feels comfortable and for others crying is their way of communicating their anxiety.

As well as the children having separation anxiety you as their parents/carers can also have it. It is hard leaving your children with a group of people you don't really know for them to be doing things you cannot see or control. Plus you have been their carers for the last few years, now they are moving on with their journey it can be hard to know what to do or how to feel.

What we do

Before any teaching can be done our job is to build bonds with the children, to help them feel secure and safe in this new environment. The stronger the adult attachment with staff the easier separation will be.

But this takes time! You have to allow your child the time to go through this process, and for some it will be small steps at a time.

You can also help by being confident at dropping off times, because if your child knows you are happy to drop them off then they will feel secure. Children will pick up on anxieties you may have, and as horrid as this seems hovering around and lengthening that handing over period will not help your child.

With children's eating and drinking we will always support and encourage them to eat, but we cannot force them too. As we said above, food can be something the children use as a form of control. Once again, the happier they feel at Pre-School the more they will eat. Also, remember your child's appetite will vary day to day. And please do not worry if your child comes back with a full water bottle, this just means we have refilled it. We always have their water bottles for snack and lunch and the children can also access them themselves throughout the day, which they do.

Please do remember you are all doing an amazing job, this can be a hard time for all. The children are already doing so well, so you should be proud.