

CHOLSEY

Newsletter
March 27th

PRE-SCHOOL

Each picture shows a child learning and behind each star is a smiley face!
Each child wanting to learn, expressing themselves, problem solving, communicating, building relationships, increasing their word bank, problem solving, managing emotions, understanding the world, maths and much more.



Messy Play

At Pre-School the children are constantly learning in everything they do, play is how children learn (you also learnt this way when you were younger!) there are many types of play and this week we will speak about 'Messy Play'. Messy Play is often misunderstood, we completely understand that 'Messy Play' often brings adults out in chills, the mess in the room, the mess on the children, the mess on their clothes and so on. But.....the importance of this type of play really does outweigh all of the above. You may ask why?

As a child plays and explores the world around them their brains are firing up, making connections through their discoveries. Messy Play is when a child explores through their senses, learning all about their interests, understanding the world around them, developing hand-eye coordination, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, developing their vocabulary and literacy, mathematics and problem-solving skills. Messy play doesn't have to mean anything, the process of messy play is what activates the brain, it isn't wrong or right, there doesn't have to be a finished product but it is engaging, fun, interesting and gives children the chance to observe what is going on and those outcomes. Because there is no right or wrong to Messy Play children's self confidence can grow, they cannot 'fail' (fail in the eyes of adults) at this type of play all they can do is enjoy and learn in ways they want to.

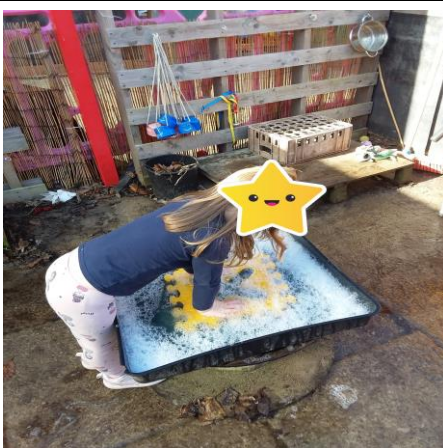
We used to put aprons on during Messy Play, but we no longer do this as we have realised through training and experience the action of stopping a child when they are engaged in this play can stop the play instantly therefore ruining the learning experience, some children do not like to put aprons on because of sensory issues and we therefore do not want to say they cannot take part in this fantastic way of learning.

Because of all of the above we value the benefits of Messy Play over what may be deemed the downsides.

We always advise, right from the moment your child joins us, that we will get messy, therefore wearing old clothing that you do not mind getting dirty is important, as is having old spare clothes to change into. (The right type of clothing is also important to help your child increase their independence).

These early years are when children should be learning through all these different ways of play, getting the brain connections fired up in positive ways is so important.

Embrace the Messy Play and you will be helping your child in the best way.



Safeguarding

Safeguarding is extremely important to us at Cholsey Pre-School, but did you know Safeguarding is 'Everyone's' responsibility, including yours.

If you have Safeguarding concerns who do you report them to? If you think a child is in immediate danger you would call 999 straight away.

If you have an immediate concern about a child you can call the MASH team on 0345 050 7666 Or click the link below for further information.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/keeping-children-and-young-people-safe/report-child-abuse>

This week we are going to be talking about Emotional Abuse. Do you know the signs of a child being Emotionally Abused? Do you know what Emotional Abused means? Again, Emotional Abuse of a child can come from any parent/carer or person in their life, it doesn't matter what they earn or where they live.

What is Emotional Abuse? The NSPCC describes emotional abuse as:

Emotional Abuse is any type of abuse that involves the continual emotional mistreatment of a child. It's sometimes called psychological abuse. Emotional Abuse can involve deliberately trying to scare, humiliate, isolate or ignore a child.

Emotional Abuse is often a part of other kinds of abuse, which means it can be difficult to spot the signs or tell the difference, though it can also happen on its own.

The NSPCC also describe the types of emotional abuse as:

- Humiliating or constantly criticising a child
- Threatening, shouting at a child or calling them names
- Making the child subject to jokes or using sarcasm to hurt a child
- Blaming, scapegoating
- Making a child perform degrading acts
- Not recognising a child's own individuality, trying to control their lives
- Pushing a child too hard or not recognising their limitations
- Exposing a child to distressing events or interactions such as domestic abuse or drug taking
- Failing to promote a child's social development
- Not allowing them to have friends
- Persistently ignoring them
- Being absent
- Manipulating a child
- Never saying anything kind, expressing positive feelings or congratulating a child on successes
- Never showing any emotions in interactions with a child, also known as emotional neglect

Knowing the child is so important, recognising the changes in that child are just as important. Changes can occur because of many reasons and children change as they grow up.

Signs of Emotional Abuse in young children can be:

Being overly-affectionate to strangers or people they don't know well

Seem unconfident, wary or anxious

Not having a close relationship or bond with their parent/carer

Being aggressive or cruel towards other children or animals

For more information on Emotional Abuse please click on the link

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/emotional-abuse/>

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

March 31st End of term Pre-School closes at 12.30pm, Easter Holidays start

April 17th Term 5 starts

Monday 8th May Bank Holiday for King Charles Coronation, Pre-School Closed

Friday 26th May Term Ends 3.30pm

Half term Holiday 29th May – 2nd June