

Late Spring Term 2019

Newsletter

I have added some information below regarding this half term and next half term. Please take a few moments to have a look through.

Toddler Room Activities

This term the children in the toddler room have been very busy with their spring topic – talking about animals that are born in spring time, making spring animals for their display, looking at books to further their learning and singing songs. The children's favourite book that they enjoyed listening and talking about was "Were going on an egg hunt", which lead them to making, and decorating all the different characters from the story to create a wall display.

We have also enjoyed singing number songs to help support the children in developing number sequence by reciting numbers. To make this fun the children made props to hold as they sing "Five little speckle frogs" and "Five little ducks.

With Easter time approaching we have been busy doing lots of Easter activities. The children explored different textured materials to decorate their egg pictures, made Easter cards, been in the garden hunting for eggs the Easter bunny left and created Easter baskets.

Preschool Room Activities

This half term the children have really loved learning about planets. We got lots of different books from the Library to helps us extend our learning and watched some very interesting videos showing us what it looked like in space. With the children thoroughly enjoying this topic, we decided to do lots of arts and crafts to make a display, even making papier-mache planets.

Additionally, the children really enjoyed celebrating Pancake Day, Mother's Day and Easter. We made yummy pancakes, letting the children choose their own topping, the children made some very special Mother's Day cards that they enjoyed giving to their Mummy's as a "surprise", and along with making lots of Easter crafts and activities the Easter bunny visited Preschool, leaving all the children a chocolate treat to put in their Easter baskets!

And with spring finally here, the children have been talking about spring flowers, growth and changes.

Staffing Changes

Friday (24th May) will be Holly B's last day before her maternity leave begins.

For the Late summer term, I shall be working in the Toddler room alongside Sarah, replacing Holly B on a Wednesday and Thursday. We will keep parents updated on who will be taking over Holly's Key children for the last 7 weeks.

Outdoor and Spare Clothing

Please continue to send your child to preschool with suitable outdoor clothing. Including a coat, wellies and hat, the weather can become slightly unpredictable but it is best to be prepared for all weathers as we still continue to spend time outside.

Additionally, please send your child to preschool with a bag containing spare clothing. This is for both the toddler room and preschool rooms and each child will require slightly different things. Those still in nappies will require wipes, nappies and spare clothing. Those in pants will need spare clothes as they can still have wee accidents and require changing. Also, we love messy play at preschool and so having a spare pair of clothes allows the children to play with no inhibitions about getting messy!

Next term we will hopefully start to get the sun cream out. We provide sun cream at preschool (We are looking into which brand is best appropriate) factor 50. We ask for a voluntary donation of £1 towards this. If you choose not to use our sun cream, please send in an alternative in your child's bag and inform a member of staff. Any alternatives must be factor 50 in line with our policy.

Invoices

I have sent out the invoices for Early Summer Term 2019 via email today. I have had to create the invoices this time due to us having some issues with the software we use to create them. All invoices are due on your child's first session back after the half term. Details of how to pay are located on the bottom of your invoice.

If any payments have been made this week by transfer then this will show on next half terms invoice.

If you have any queries regarding your invoice, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you to everyone who pays on time (and often ahead of time!) This helps keep preschool running efficiently!

Booking confirmations

For summer term

Thank you to those who returned the booking forms. Those who did not return them, your child's hours will automatically stay the same.

3&4 year old- 15 hour funding

For Summer term

For those children who have just turned (or are turning 3) before the start of the summer term (beginning Monday 29th April) they will automatically receive 15 funded hours. We will have already discussed this with you and booked in your child's hours beginning in the summer term. You do not need to do anything further at this time

I have sent out a parental agreement form to sign to give us permission to claim the hours on your behalf. If you haven't already done so, could you ensure these are returned on your child's first session back. If these are not returned then we will not be able to claim your child's funded hours.

Extended entitlement (30 hours funding)

For Summer term

Please could all parents who are currently accessing this additional funding ensure that they have reconfirmed their codes. This needs doing every 3 months to ensure you are able to continue to access the funding. If you do not do this and the code runs out there is nothing we can do to continue the funding for the rest of the term, so it is really important you do this!

To reconfirm your code you need to log into your childcare choices account. You should receive an email from childcare choices near the time of reconfirmation so please keep up to date with this.

If you think you may be eligible for the additional funding please apply and if successful send us your code for us to verify. This needs doing before the summer term and we will try to accommodate hours where possible but spaces are currently very limited.

Please visit the childcare choices website for more information.

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Arrival time/ collection time

A polite request for parents to please ensure that they arriving and collecting at the correct session times that their children are booked in for. Arriving earlier/ later than expected can have a huge effect upon staff ratios, our ability to prepare for the start of the day, staff leaving/ starting as needed, lunch breaks and so much more. This is especially relevant for opening and closing times!

We understand that parents can occasionally be late due to circumstances out of their control. If you think that you are going to be late to collect then please let us know. We don't mind on the odd occasion but if this is a regular occurrence then we will have to begin charging late fees, to cover the cost of additional staff wages.



Committee Meeting-Thanks!

Thank you to everyone who attended our last committee meeting!!! We really appreciate parents and grandparents attending these as this support ensures that the setting can stay open!

If you think you would like to join our committee or come along and see what we do, then our next meeting is

Monday 20th May 2019

7:0pm at Fylindales Inn

Everyone is welcome to come along; we hope to see you there. If you cannot make this meeting but still would like to join the committee then please let us know!

Photo Day

Richard Saltmarsh is booked for Friday 7th June 9:30am-11:15am to come into preschool to take end of year photos. Richard does an amazing job every year and past parents have been very pleased with the results. Richard also has any ordered photos back to you before we break up for summer! And the packages are a reasonable price.

The children who are already booked in on a Friday will be helped to get ready for their photos by the staff members so please remember to pack a change of clothes (if wanted) and tell a member of staff on the day!

Any parent/ carer whose children do not attend on a Friday are welcome to come into the setting between these times to have photos taken. Parents/carers must stay with their children so we can maintain ratios.

In previous years parents have also brought siblings along, which you are more than welcome to do.

As in previous years we will be taking a 'Leavers photo!' This is a lovely photo of all the children who are going to 'big' school this year. We usually take this photo in fancy dress!
This will be taken at 10:30am

End of Year Party and School leavers Ceremony

Like last year we are looking into a holding an end of year party for all the children and families to attend. Within this we will also be the school leavers ceremony, where we say good-bye to the children who will be leaving us at the end of term. I am still finalising details for this but will inform everyone as soon as I can. We are looking at a Saturday in the first few weeks of July 12pm-2pm.

School Transitions

We are still waiting to get these dates.

Term Dates and events for your diary-2019

We return for Early Summer term on Tuesday 30th April 2019.

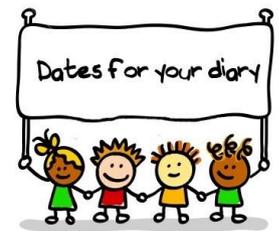
Monday 29th we are closed for a training day.

We are closed for Bank Holiday on Monday 6th May 2019

We break up for half term on Friday 24th May 2019

We return for Late summer term on Monday 3rd June 2019

We close for the summer holidays on Friday 19th July 2019



We hope you have a lovely Easter holidays and we will see you on Tuesday 30th April 😊