

Newsletter September 2019

Welcome to the autumn term at pre-school

This is an exciting term as we welcome new children and families to preschool and support them as they settle in, and welcome back children and families as they reacquaint themselves with preschool now they are the 'older group'. We have talked about the children who have moved onto reception class taking pleasure in seeing them all on the playground or around school.

Just a few reminders

Belongings Please help us and your child look after their belongings by labelling everything; coats, lunch boxes, bags etc. We spend time outside everyday and so weather appropriate clothing and footwear for your child means they can play outside comfortably.	Drop off and collection Please remember to write in the collection book if someone different from the person who dropped off is collecting your child. The lunch club register needs to be ticked if your child is staying for lunch and lunch boxes put into the crate. Don't forget to include a drink in your child's lunch box!	Snack fruit Thank you for the portions of fruit you bring that can be shared by the children at snack time. Snack time is a social time when children chat together, chop up fruit, count pieces and use all their senses to enjoy their snack.
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Each child has their own drawer in which they will put their pieces of work or pieces of clothing they've removed or information from school or preschool. Please check their drawer regularly for these treasures!

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

This is the framework within which pre-school supports the learning and development and welfare of each of the children who attend, further information about this framework is available in pre-school or you can access and other information about early education and childcare it via the Department of Education website www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/early-years

Partnership with parents is crucial in supporting children's development, at pre-school we aim to share your child's key worker folder with you regularly, we have a 'parents week' when you can come into pre-school meet with your child's key worker and discuss their progress. We also welcome visits from parents and value the information you provide about your child's experiences at home etc. particularly your child's successes - we love to share those proud moments! If you have any concerns about your child's development and experiences at pre-school please discuss them with us.

Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to think about problems, and relate to others. Learning and development is supported for the children in pre-school through planned and purposeful play in a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity. Planning for the sessions starts with the children; we observe them in the pre-school and look forward to hearing from you of their interests and favourite activities at home.

Starting school - September 2020.

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-learning-and-schools/choosing-a-school/apply-to-start-school/>

If your child will be aged 4 by September 2020 and is due to start school you should apply online via the link above. If you have any queries or require a paper form please call Somerset Direct on 0300 123 2224. Applications need to be submitted by 15th January 2020, confirmation of places will be given in early April 2020. Kingsbury Episcopi Primary school will be organising an open afternoon soon for all interested families, and they would welcome any questions or requests to visit to support your choice of school, call in at the office or telephone 01460 240507.

Pre-school committee

As you are aware the pre-school is managed by a parent led committee. Parental involvement is vital for the continued success of the pre-school all parents are welcomed and encouraged to join the committee, involvement can be very satisfying, is a great way to meet other parents and share your skills - IT, organisation, management, teamwork and cake making! Details of the Annual General Meeting to follow shortly, all parents are invited to attend this meeting so that we can communicate how the preschool is organised and keep all parents up to date. We are also planning a social evening to get to meet other parents and committee members to share more about what happens at preschool and why we need parent involvement.

Diary dates	
Half term	25 th October to 4 th November
Inset day	Friday 26 th October
4.11.19	Return to pre-school
Early November	Opportunity to visit Beech/reception class at Kingsbury Episcopi Primary school for the children and families starting school in September 2020 date to be confirmed
w/c 11.11.19	Parents week - more details to follow
13.12.19	Preschool nativity play (to be confirmed)
20.12.19	Last day of autumn term.
7.1.20	Return to preschool