

# Newsletter March 2019

## **Half term**

We returned after the half term break to find our garden had been 'done up' with some hard work from our dedicated parents, grandparents and families it has been tidied, the shed painted, plant pots sorted, sand pit cleaned and just generally looking fabulous. A massive thank you to everyone involved, we really appreciate the efforts.

Our bikes are back after being repaired by another super Dad, and have been gladly received by the children. We are lucky at preschool to have such supportive families.

We have really enjoyed book week this week with lots of stories old and new, and it has been lovely to welcome family members coming in to read to the group.

Most of the activities planned at preschool are a combination of play and exploration introducing skills - using pens, scissors; counting and calculating; stories and sounds in words for example that follow the children's preferred interests and inspire their learning of new interests. Even tidy up time is a learning opportunity, along with putting on their coats, following the routine of the session and eating lunch together, it's certainly a busy life at preschool!

## **Spring!**

Spring may be on its way and as ever the children are enthusiastic about going outside to play, explore and enjoy the space and natural world outside. Please make sure your child has a coat and warm clothes to go out, if they want to bring wellingtons for outside play they can, similarly if they wish to bring slippers for inside they can do that also!

## **Cake sale Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April (it's no joke!)**

We need cakes, biscuits, buns or savouries to sell after school (3.15pm) for our cake sale, this is a simple but fun way to raise funds for our preschool. Please bring along any bakes to preschool on the Monday or Tuesday ready for sale on Tuesday afternoon, please label the bakes, also label any containers so they can be returned. If you are able to help out during the cake sale that would be lovely, please let Lis or Fi Miller know.

## **Visits to reception class**

Our first visit for the children due to start school in September 2019 will take place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April. We will meet Mrs. Snowdon and the current reception class children as well as the lunch time staff when we have our lunch in the school hall. We will feedback how the visits go, but please feel free to discuss them with your child's key worker.

## **Show and tell basket**

Please encourage your child to bring an item from home to put in the basket as a discussion point at show and tell time; this is a lovely opportunity for us to learn more about the children and for them to learn more about each other. If your child likes to choose something different to bring in perhaps you could suggest an item that relates to the theme for the week? Or an item that starts with a letter from their name?

## **The importance of reading with your children**

## Kingsbury Episcopi Pre-school

Sharing books and listening to stories are important parts of children's early development. One of the best reasons for doing this is that it is very enjoyable, children learn to associate books with pleasure and that it is well worth becoming a reader

Sharing and looking at books means children learn how books work, that both print and pictures tell stories and give information, they learn about the world around them and become confident and careful when handling books

When they listen to stories, children develop imagination and creativity, visual and language skills, memory and concentration, and social skills as they respond, join in with and talk about stories they know

### **Policies for preschool**

The preschool policies are adapted for our use from model policies produced by Support Services for Education and the Preschool Learning Alliance (now called Early Years Alliance) and several are available for viewing on the preschool website. These policies are updated either annually or two yearly and approved by the parent management committee. Please do not hesitate to speak to Lis or a committee member if you have any concerns about any of these policies or wish to clarify any issues.

### **Wednesday afternoon session**

This additional session will start on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Pre-school photos Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May**

Concept Photography will be coming on this date. The photographer will arrive before the start of the session, and if your child does not attend on that day you can come along to have their photo taken.

### **Diary dates**

<b>Last day of term</b>	<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April</b>
<b>Return to school</b>	<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>
<b>Introduction to school sessions</b>	<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>
<b>Pre-school photos</b>	<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May</b>