

# Newsletter

Welcome back to term 3. We all hope you had a very Happy Christmas and we would like to wish you and your families a very Happy New Year.

This term we would like to welcome Dylan, Cali, Isabelle, Athavan, Athithya and their families to Pre-School.

We are pleased to announce that after February half term (w/c 28<sup>th</sup> February) we will be opening a Friday morning session ( 9am to 12noon) if you would like your child to have a place, please contact Zena via email [stonesfieldpsad@outlook.com](mailto:stonesfieldpsad@outlook.com)

During this term we will continue with 'In The moment Planning' This means we do not plan ahead, we rely solely on the Child taking the lead. We feel that Children are much more interested in activities that are of interest to them and they remain focused for longer and will learn much more. Rather than us taking the lead and making them play with activities we ourselves would prefer to put out.

For example, a child will be more willing to count all the animals once they have carefully lined them all up, instead of us expecting them to count toys that are of no interest to them.

We will also continue with 'Focused Child' However we have decided to change this to 'More About me.' Children develop very quickly and the staff are continuously working towards each Child's next steps. Each term every Child will have the opportunity to be observed based around the information we receive from you and their key persons knowledge. They will also have a special day where they can help with little jobs, choose songs and share their special occasions and achievements during circle time.

You will receive notification as to when it is your child's turn via Tapestry\* We will request that you send in ideas of any next steps you are working towards at home, achievements, special events or new interests that your Child may have. This will give your Child's key person the opportunity to plan an activity related to this information.

An Ofsted requirement is that we keep you informed of your Child's next steps. This is an area that your Child's key person will be working towards and these next steps will continue to change dramatically as your Child develops.

Examples of this are;

- Starting to investigate scissors, will move on to learning to hold them to snip paper, will move on to holding them correctly, will move on to cutting with confidence.

- Stepping into welly boots, will move on to putting own shoes on, will move on to pulling across the Velcro.
- Playing alongside another child, will move on to being interested in other children's play, will move on to joining in, will move on to interacting and introducing their own play ideas.

Ideally we would like to share these via Tapestry\*

\*Tapestry. We use this to share WOW moments and photographs of your Child's life at Pre School. We are aware that some of you have not signed up to Tapestry or maybe you are finding it difficult to. You may also prefer to not use Tapestry, maybe an Email or even a hard copy would be preferable. Either way we must be able to communicate with you. Can you please talk to a member of staff if you are having difficulty or have another preference, Thank you.

## Forest School and Woodland Wanderers

Forest School will continue on a Monday morning. The group of Children changes every week, we decide on the morning and the Children can also decide whether they would like to go or not. We ask that all parents who has a Child that attends a Monday morning session always sends there Child in with a waterproof all in one or waterproof coat and trousers, hat, gloves, thick socks and wellington boots. It would be preferable if it was in a separate bag for easy access on the morning. We keep a register as to who has been so all children has an opportunity to go during each term.

Woodland Wanderers will start again Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January and will continue every Tuesday morning thereafter. This is a great opportunity for the F2's only, children starting School September 2022. In previous years these children have quickly developed independence, self-care and the love of our surrounding environment. Again, we ask that you send in a waterproof all in on or water proof coat and trousers, hat, gloves, thick socks and wellington boots. These must be in a named bag so your child can find their own bag and we will supervise getting themselves ready and becoming aware and taking care of their own belongings. This is a life skill that is required at school.

## Last Term

At Pre School we had a great Christmas term. The Children enjoyed making lots of Christmas themed activities and learning new Christmas songs. We introduced the story of The Nativity and some of the children enjoyed dressing up and acting out the story. Our Christmas tree was decorated and re decorated, several times !! Unfortunately, together with the school we decided it was safe all round if we cancelled joining in with the school Christmas Play, but we did continue to learn the songs. Our Christmas party was great fun, lots of singing and dancing and gluing and sticking and all the Children were able to take home a lovely bag filled with all the lovely things they had made.

## Polite Reminders

- If your child is absent please let us know by telephone or Email before 9:30am. Telephone 01993 898370 or Email [stonesfieldps@outlook.com](mailto:stonesfieldps@outlook.com)
- Zena our administrator is available to help with issues such as registration, changing sessions and fees [stonesfieldpsad@outlook.com](mailto:stonesfieldpsad@outlook.com)
- We would prefer it if you would continue to wear a face mask. Thank you.
- Please keep us up to date with all your contact details and any changes regarding your Child's registration forms. (Such as change of address, telephone number)
- Please provide your Child with a small prepared healthy snack for both am and pm sessions in a **separate named container**. We provide a drink of milk. Suggestions for healthy snacks are: breadsticks and raisins, cheese and apple, rice cake & prepared fruit you know what your child enjoys. **No confectionary, crisps and cakes etc.**
- Only water in water bottles, we soon detect flavoured water or squash!  
**Healthy eating and oral health are very high up in our curriculum and Safe Guarding.**
- Please provide suitable clothing for the changing weather with plenty of spare clothes in their red bag. It is really important that shoes, wellies and clothes are all labelled clearly with names.
- If your child is staying for a full day session please supply them with a healthy lunch stored in a named lunchbox or lunch bag. On warm days please ensure you pop in a small cool pack. No confectionary or large bags of crisp please. We follow a healthy eating policy and from experience we know that most children will want to eat crisps and cakes and anything sweet first, which inevitably fills them up and the other food in their lunchbox sadly is not eaten. We always return uneaten food in lunchboxes so you know what your child has eaten at pre-school.

### **Safety Note:**

**Due to children's allergies, we are a NUT FREE ZONE. Please ensure your child's snack and lunch does not contain any products that contain nuts.** Made in a factory that makes nut products is acceptable.

**Please ensure grapes, olives and cherry tomatoes are cut into quarters because they are a choking hazard** (As recommended by our paediatric First aid training advisor)

### **Poorly Children**

Please do not bring your child into Pre School if they have been vomiting or have had diarrhoea. You may bring them back to Pre School when at least 48 hours has lapsed since the last attack. We also ask that you keep your child at home if they have an infection as this helps to prevent it being passed on to the other children and staff. Please inform staff of any infections and illnesses

so that we can alert other parents as necessary, and help us to observe the other children who may become poorly. Pre School follows a guide for infection control that we adhere to which helps prevent certain illnesses from spreading. The staff have a right to refuse a child admission to Pre School, if they have specific infection or illness. Stated in our policy.

We can administer medicines that have been prescribed by your child's GP, we cannot give medicines such as paracetamol or ibuprofen. We also advise that if your child has been prescribed antibiotics you keep them at home for at least 48 hours before returning to Pre School. If your child needs to be given any prescribed medicine during a session then please speak to Louise, we follow our medication procedure for this.

If your child requires an inhaler or EpiPen please inform Louise, staff are required to be trained to administer these.

If your child becomes poorly whilst attending Pre School, we will contact you to come and collect them as soon as possible, in the mean time we will keep them comfortable and safe. In the event of your child having a fever we will phone you and ask permission to administer paracetamol if you are having to make a longer journey of over 20 minutes from your place of work etc.

Please note: Covid -19 government guidelines, if your child has a temperature or a continuous cough they must NOT attend Pre School.

### Important Dates.

Term 3 finishes Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February.

Term 4 starts Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, finishes Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

**Please note**, there is going to be an extra bank holiday for everyone 3rd June 2022. This is to Celebrate the Queen's platinum Jubilee. Schools will be closed during this time as it is our late spring break 30<sup>th</sup> May- 3<sup>rd</sup> June. We are able to add an extra day to our Summer Holiday.

*Thank you for taking the time to read this information*