

Oakley Pre-School

Spring Term 2019 Newsletter



Welcome back!

Welcome to the Spring Term at Oakley Pre-School. In particular we would like to welcome all of our new children and parents starting pre-school for the first time. We hope that you have all enjoyed a peaceful Christmas break and wish you all a happy New Year.

In the Moment Planning

For your information, we have now put planning in the moment into action and will continue to work in partnership with you, as your child's first educators, to ensure that they reach their full developmental potential, during their time at pre-school. We will now have focussed children each week and your child's key person will send a form home 'Planning for Your Child's Learning Journey' (prior to your child's focussed week) for you to input to their development records and improve the link further between home and pre-school.

We are continuing to feature a letter sound of the week, to help with literacy development. The letter sounds for each week can be found under dates for your diary in this newsletter. Please make sure everything you bring in for

the letter sound is named though, as we have a lot of objects left that we haven't returned because we can't identify the owners.

At the end of each week, any objects will be placed in the "Lost Property" box in the vestry. Please remember to check and to take your things home.

Parent Partnership

Communication is the key to a successful partnership between parents and pre-school and we do our best to ensure that we have good lines of communication. Face to face communication is always preferred, but not always possible. We will use **email** and also put hard copies of letters in your **pigeon holes**. We also have **notice boards** inside the pre-school room and one outside on the path. **Home Link Books** also help with home and pre-school communication. A Home link Book is given to each child and an explanation of how these work is inside the front cover of the book. **Please make sure that you hand these to a member of staff** at the beginning of the session as we don't always have time to search in the bags for them. We will endeavour to write in these at least once a week. Please remember to check **all** of these regularly to make sure you are up to date. We also have a **Facebook** page so please 'like' that to follow us on Facebook. Any queries you may have, please don't hesitate to ask any staff member. We also have a website which we update regularly.

"Eggcellent" Board

This is in the vestry room and is so you and the children can let us know of anything that they have done that they are proud of. We will be leaving a pack of post it notes by the board and we ask that you write what your child has achieved on a note and stick it on the board. We will talk about it through the session with the children. The note will then go into their Development record and will form part of their observation records.

Maths Activities at home

We have Maths activity sheets for you to take home to extend your child's learning. These are purely voluntary and are designed to be a fun way to encourage the use of mathematical language and concepts. They will be in a leaflet dispenser on the notice board and the activities will be alternated each week. Ask your key person to show you where they are, if you're not sure.

Dates for your diary:

Spring term

Half term w/c 11th February

PD Days 2nd January

Open Classroom: 28th February from 3.30-5pm and 7-9pm at pre-school

Family Photo shoot: Saturday 2nd March from 10am at pre-school

Last day of term Friday 5th April.

Letter sounds: w/c 3/01/2019 and
7/11 Ll. 14/01 Ff. 21/01 Bb. 28/01/
Jj. 04/02 Ww. 18/02 Vv. 25/02 Yy.
04/03 Xx. 11/03 Zz. 18/03 Ss.
25/03 Aa. 01/04 Tt.

Fund-raising

Committee Run Events

Pre-school is run by a management committee, made up of parents. We are always looking for new members and new ideas to help with our fundraising. If you would like to join and become part of our dedicated committee we would love to hear from you. If you would like more information, please see Sally Martiello. Thank you to those who attended our fundraising events last term.

Spend a penny appeal

Many of you will all have seen the empty toilet bowl at the entrance to pre-school/church. This is to raise funds for pre-school. So far it has raised several hundred pounds, just by people donating their loose change. Please carry on bringing in your spare change this term to fill it up again and hopefully we will beat our previous total! All our fund raising events go towards improving pre-school resources.

We will have a number of other fund-raising events going on through the term. Including our Thursday coffee mornings 9-10 am in the Methodist Church Activity room.



Lunch Club

We have children attending pre-school with nut allergies. Please do not send your child with any products containing nuts, such as, peanut butter, cereal bars etc. Could you please ensure that any grapes, cherry tomatoes or mini sausages are cut in half lengthways to avoid them being a choking hazard. Please do not send in 'leftovers' that contain meat or cheese, as we are unable to reheat them at pre-school. If you have any queries, please speak to Sally Martiello.

Outdoor clothing:

The children will continue to use the outside area whenever they wish this term in line with our "Outside play" policy. Please ensure that your child has suitable outside clothing whenever s/he attends pre-school. Our "Wellie-hog" under the canopy in the playground will be used to store the children's wellies throughout the wetter months and we would be grateful if you could leave a pair of named wellies at pre-school throughout the term.



Children's Work Bags

As part of our aim to be more sustainable, each of the children are provided with their own reusable cotton bag to carry paintings etc home from pre-school. Please could you make sure

these are brought into pre-school for each session your child attends. **Please put these in the white plastic box in the cloakroom.**

Books

We frequently have a variety of books for sale in the cloakroom, why not have a look? They are reasonably priced and the pre-school receive a percentage to purchase new books for the children.

Avon Books

We often have Avon books in the cloak room for you to take home and order from. A percentage of all sales will go to pre-school.

Naming Children's Belongings

Please could we remind parents/carers to label all hats, jumpers, cardigans, coats and any item of clothing that is likely to be removed.

Thank you for your continued support.