

Oakley Pre-School

Summer Term 2021 Newsletter



Welcome back to the Summer Term!

We are pleased to welcome everyone back to Pre-school after the Easter break and are pleased to welcome our new Pre-school Assistant, Mrs Natalie Talbot who has joined us.

We would also like to welcome our new children and parents starting pre-school for the first time. The new starters came for a drop-in session on the Monday 12th April. All the children had a lovely time playing inside and outside and are settling in well.

Can we please ask that all parents please read carefully all sections in this newsletter as due to the Coronavirus pandemic and in accordance with government guidance we have made several changes to the normal running and daily activities of the Pre-school. All these changes will be reviewed regularly and changed/reinstated once guidelines allow.

Sound of the Week

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 on **famly**. In line with our COVID-19 requirements please note that **items are NOT ALLOWED** to be brought into Pre-school for the time being.

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. Our priority is normally face to face communication but due to COVID-19 requirements **communication will where possible be done via email or using famly**.

famly is a software application specifically designed for Early Years settings. We are now using **famly** for daily attendance, invoicing and communicating with parents/carers, observations and assessments of the children. If you have any queries or problems using this app please contact us.

As parents **will not be allowed access** into Pre-school for the time being, everything will only be distributed electronically.

Please email any items or concerns you would normally raise with your child's Key Worker via the Pre-school email or using **famly**.

We have a **Facebook** page so please 'like' that to follow us on Facebook. The Pre-school website is also update regularly.

Any queries, please don't hesitate to contact Pre-school via phone, email or **famly**.

"Eggcellent" Board

Pre-school has an "eggcellent board" on display in the Vestry for which we have previously asked parents/carers to use to let us know of anything that your children have done that they are proud of. As parents/carers are not permitted



to enter Pre-school at the current time we would like to ask for any **'WOW' moments to be emailed** into Pre-school which we will print off and add to the board.

We will talk about the child's "WOW" moment through the session with the children. The note will then go into their Development Folder and will form part of their observation records.

Lunch Club



Please note that **lunch boxes MUST be made of plastic** that can be washed thoroughly every day. No material lunch bags will be allowed to be brought in.

We have children attending pre-school with serious nut allergies. Please **do not** send your child with any products containing nuts, such as, peanut butter, cereal bars etc. Please also refrain from giving your child products containing nuts immediately prior to coming into Pre-school.



Could you please ensure that any grapes, cherry tomatoes or mini sausages etc are cut in half lengthways to avoid them being a choking hazard. Please also **do not** send in 'leftovers' that contain meat or cheese, as we are unable to reheat them at pre-school.

Could you please be mindful when packing your child's lunch box. We are finding that there is a lot of plastic waste and due to the current concerns regarding climate change we would really like to try and help even in a small way.

Snack Time / Drinks

For the time being there will be **no snack provision** at Pre-school. Children will be offered and encouraged to drink water during the session. This will be supervised and offered in a sterilised beaker. **Water bottles are NOT to be brought in from home.**

Outdoor clothing

The children will continue to use the outside area whenever they wish this term in line with our "Outside play" policy.



Therefore, please ensure that your child has suitable outside clothing whenever he/she attends pre-school. Our "Wellie-hog" under the canopy in the playground will be used to store the children's wellies and we would be grateful if you could leave a pair of **named wellies** at pre-school for the duration of the term.

As this is the summer term please refer to our sun protection policy that has been issued and ensure sun protection is applied before your child comes to pre-school.



Children's Work/Art Bags

Due to COVID-19 requirements the reusable cotton art bags will not be brought in or taken home from pre-school. Instead you will be handed your child's work from your pigeon hole which are now by the front door. Advice is for parents/carers to leave the folder/work for **at least 6 hours** in a car boot, garage etc before taking into the house due to virus transference guidelines.



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.

This item belongs to:



Fund-raising Committee

Pre-school is run by a management committee, made up of parents/carers and volunteers. If you are interested in joining the Committee please let us know as new faces are always welcome.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic guidelines we are not able to run our normal fundraising events. We hope to be able to do something soon.

New Build Project for Pre-School

It has been a long hard struggle, especially through the Pandemic, with the planning and preparations in which to secure the new Pre-school building in the farmers' field behind the Methodist Church.

We have now put down a deposit for the new modular building and groundworks are to commence in the next month or two.



Unfortunately due to the Pandemic and Brexit we are not able to have delivery of the building until November so we look forward to moving into the new facility for the start of 2022.

The latest plans are available to view on our web-site. If you can offer any help or have contacts that you think we could use please let us know.

Dates for your Diary:

Back to Pre-school : Tues 13th Apr
(PD Day : Mon 12th Apr)
(UK Bank Holidays - 3rd & 31st May)
Half term : w/c Mon 31st May
Last day of Summer term : Thurs 22nd July
First day of Autumn term : Mon 6th Sept
(PD Day : 2nd & 3rd Sept)

If you have any queries or concerns with anything at Pre-school, please speak to Sally Martiello.

Thank you for your continued support.

