

## February/March 2018 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back, hope you all had a good half term.

We're hopeful of some better weather at some point over this half term and less illness. A big thank you to our volunteer helpers who have covered for staff illness and helped us to maintain our ratios, without whom some sessions would have been cancelled. It highlights the importance of keeping children at home when they are poorly, so that infections can be controlled.

Please could you discourage the children from bringing in toys from home, as we struggle to store them and they sometimes contain small detachable parts which are a choking hazard to our younger children. We are happy for children to bring in comforters if they need them to feel settled. Thank you for your help with this.

We have a busy few weeks planned—see dates for your diary for more information.

The topics for the next half term will be as follows.

### **Butterflies** (younger group)

will be focusing on counting and looking at numerals 1-5 through rhymes and stories e.g 5 currant buns; 5 little speckled frogs etc

### **Busy Bees**

Will be focusing on the five senses for our activities as well as introducing a spring theme into our displays.

Week 1 Sight—Kims game, hiding and finding objects Week 2 Sound—distinguishing environmental sounds through listening games; Week 3 Touch—lots of sensory activities Week 4 Smell—introducing different aromas into our activities Week 5 Taste—making some Easter treats.

As usual more detailed plans are on the notice board in the porch.

### **PRE-SCHOOL DETAILS:**

St John's Methodist Church,  
Wybunbury Road,  
Willaston, Nantwich.  
CW5 7JF

### **Telephone:**

**01270 567431**

Mobile 07966 368423



### **Email:willastonpreschool@gmail.com**

Charity Number

1035488

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Willaston Pre-school

Cheshire



### **Fundraising News**

#### Easy Fund-raising

Easy Fundraising continues to provide the Pre-school with donations, It would be really great if everyone registered for this.

If you buy products online, register for free with Easy Fundraising at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/willastonpresch> and help raise donations for the Pre-school. Most large retailers are part of this scheme e.g Amazon, M&S.

#### Rag Bag Collections

Bags of unwanted clothes can be brought in at any time to the Pre-school and left in the porch.

#### Name labels—Stik-ins

Click on the links from our website to order labels. Our code is 35315 and raise **30%** commission for Pre-school.

### **Notices**

- Our uncollected child policy has now been amended in line with guidance from the Pre-school learning alliance. It has reduced the time period from 1 hour to 30 minutes before we contact other agencies e.g social care or Police, in the unlikely event that our efforts to contact parents and other emergency contacts have failed. This does not happen often but reinforces the need to make sure that all the contact numbers you have provided for us on your agreement form are kept updated. Please ask to see what we have on file if you are unsure.
- Any families claiming the 30 hours funding for the Summer term need to start the process again by 2.3.18 ideally, as all claims must be successfully made by 31.3.18. If you have any queries please get in touch with Debbie who is happy to help.

Thank you for your support

### Dates for your Diary

- **World Book Day**—Thursday 1.3.18. The children are invited to bring in a favourite story to share with us.
- **Dress up day**—Tuesday 6.3.18. The children are invited to come dressed up and make a donation to Crackerjacks children's trust.
- **Pennies in Pots Fundraiser**—The closing date to return your decorated pots is Friday 16.3.18. A small gift will be given for all entries and Easter egg prizes for the best child decorated entries in each age group.
- **Parents Evening 6-8pm /AGM 8pm** Wednesday 21.3.18. An appointment schedule will be put on the notice board next week, so that you can arrange to have a chat with your child's Key person. We will endeavour to make alternative arrangements if the date and/or times are inconvenient, please let us know. Our AGM will follow on at 8pm, so we hope you will stay to find out more about how the Pre-school is run and our plans for the future.
- The Pre-school will close at 3pm on **Thursday** 29.3.18 and re-open on **Monday** 16.4.18.

### Admission Enquiries **07944 208909**

We now have limited availability up to July, please let Debbie know asap if you would like to change or increase sessions. Also if you would like to put the names of any younger siblings on our waiting list. please don't delay as next year is already looking busy. Many thanks



## Please keep us informed

We like to know what has happened to children if they are not at their regular Pre-school session for any reason. Please give us a call on 01270 567431 if your child isn't able to come along.

As a matter of security, we also need to know, in advance, who will be collecting your child at the end of a session if it is not the normal carer. This person will need to sign to say that they have collected the child and know the password.

Please also ensure you always tell a member of staff if your child has any pre-existing injuries when they come to a Pre-school session so that we can keep a special eye on them.

If your contact details have changed since your child started at Pre-school please inform one of the staff, so that we can update our records.

### Parent/Carer File

We have put together a file of useful information, ranging from dealing with temper tantrums, encouraging language development to food and nutritional advice, which is on display inside the Pre-school. Please ask a member of staff to locate it for you. Also see the helpful development guides on the 'How we learn' section of our website which now includes 'How to prevent tooth decay' A free app can also be downloaded from Cheshire child health—<https://apkpure.com/cheshire-child-health/com.senseinteractive.cheshire> with useful information about common childhood illnesses.

### Labels

*Please help us to avoid mix-ups by labelling children's coats, bags etc,*

## Your Pre-school needs You

We pride ourselves on being an excellent Pre-school, where children enjoy playing and learning. However to maintain this standard we need your support and help.

If you can help us to maintain our garden; or have a particular hobby or interest which could be shared with the children; or would be happy to be put on our emergency staff rota, please mention it to a member of staff (DBS checks would be required for frequent visitors)

Thank you.

Ann and all the Pre-school staff

### Library Box

We have a lending library box for our Pre-schoolers. Parents/Carers are welcome to have a look through the box and select any book(s) to take home to share with their child. We just need you to sign the book out and back in again on return. Books can be kept for a maximum of 2 weeks. To ensure that we keep a good supply of books for you to share, parents/carers will be responsible for the replacement of any lost or damaged books.

### Safeguarding and Online Safety

The Underpants rule and 'The Pantasaurus' video can be downloaded from the NSPCC website. Digi-duck & Smarty the Penguin stories and activities about online safety are available from the Child Net International website

### Supporting Charities

This year we will be supporting the following charities :-

**Children in Need and Barnardos (TBC)**

**Crackerjacks Children's Trust**

### Uniform

We have a small selection of uniform currently available:- Sweatshirts £8.50, T-shirts £6.50 and Polo shirts at £7.99. If you would like to make an order, please mention it to a member of staff. We also have some nearly new items available at discounted prices.