



Registered Charity Number 1155711
0779 355 4340

February 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to Pre-School and we hope you all enjoyed a lovely half term!

Sponsored Bounce

Thank you for the very generous sponsors we have already received. If you haven't already done so, please will you bring in your child's sponsored bounce money asap, so we can confirm the grand total raised! Thank you!

Donation List

Thank you for the generous donations towards our Pre-School supplies/consumables. As you know the Pre-School is in deficit and is looking at all possible ways to enable us to reduce our costs. The donations of supplies/consumables have been helpful, and we will therefore issue a donation request list on a regular basis. If you can donate something, please put your name against one or two items on the list. Thank you!

Buggy Park

Please continue to refrain from using the Children's Centre buggy park for your children's bikes and scooters. If you are leaving your child's buggy, then please can you fold it up. The Children's Centre have reiterated to us that this should be left clear for families who bring buggies when accessing activities or meetings at the Children's Centre. Our parents can use the scooter park at the end of the allotment area or the one which is near the entrance to the Infant School. The bike rack can also be used.

Name Tags/Bags

A reminder to name all clothing and bags; please can bags be clearly named on the outside. Children should only have a small bag. As we are so limited with space on our pegs, could parents encourage their children to put their bags on the shelf under the bench, to help with space for coats. For our morning children, please help to encourage independence for school by allowing your child to take their coats off and hang them up independently.

Easyfundraising

We would very much appreciate it if our parents could support our Pre-School when they shop online by using easyfundraising.org.uk. The Pre-School receives a donation for each online purchase you make, typically a percentage of the total sale. The first time you do this you just log on to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and then search for our Pre-School (using our postcode KT18 7AA). Then select 'support this cause'. The website will then direct you to your chosen online retailer e.g. Amazon, John Lewis, Sainsburys, Argos, Marks and Spencer – you can shop and raise funds for us at over 2,700 retailers!

This is such an easy way to help our Pre-School, just by shopping online at your normal retailers, so please do log onto 'easyfundraising' first before each online purchase. Thank you!

Here are details of some of the things planned for the second half of the spring term.

Week beginning 19th February

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year with some fun activities.

Thursday 1st March – World Book Day/St David's Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day and children can come to Pre-School dressed as a book character on this day. However, dressing up is optional and we do understand if not all children wish to do so. If children also want to bring in their favourite book from home, please can you ensure that it is clearly labelled with your child's name.

Thursday 15th March – Parent Meetings

Consultations will be for parents of the morning and afternoon children.

Appointment lists will be in reception from Monday 26th February, so please sign up to an available slot. If you don't come in to drop off or collect your child, then you can email for an appointment. Please note that we are limited to ten-minute appointments, so please be fair to other families by keeping to your allocated time on the day!

We ask that no children or siblings are brought in to Pre-School during your parent meeting. Our last parent meeting was very busy, with lots of siblings, noise and disruption! As we are unable to supervise the children, it makes it more difficult to speak with parents, so we would very much appreciate if you could help us by complying with this request.

Comic Relief/Sport Relief – Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd March

All children are invited to come to Pre-School dressed in something sporty for Comic Relief/Sport Relief on Thursday 22nd or Friday 23rd March. We will have a collection bucket on the door.

Easter Hat Parade – Wednesday 28th March 2.15pm (afternoon children)

This very popular event will take place on Wednesday 28th March. We would like parents to make an "Easter hat" at home with their child and bring it with them on the day of the parade. If you are stuck for ideas, then please ask your child's key person! The children will then proudly show their hat at the parade (in the garden if the weather is kind to us). Parents are invited to come in to watch at 2.15pm and there will be music with Catherine and songs for you to enjoy and a surprise visit from the Easter Bunny. More details will be given shortly.

Easter Egg Hunt – Wednesday 28th March (morning children)

Our morning children will enjoy an Easter egg hunt in the garden on our last day of term. There will also be a surprise visit from the Easter Bunny!

Spring Fair – Saturday 12th May, 2pm – 4pm (all children and families)

The Spring Fair is always hugely popular with our Pre-School families. It's a fun afternoon out for all the children and their families, and a great way to raise money for the Pre-School. So please put the date in your diaries, if it's not there already!

Thank you to everyone who was able to kindly donate towards our collection for the Tombola and Toy stalls. You were amazingly generous donating mainly brand-new items, which are fantastic for our Tombola Stalls. The second-hand Toy Stall will need a few more items so we will be giving you the further opportunity for a clear out in March.

The Fair is run by a team of volunteers, and to make the day a success we rely on the generous help and support from our parents to set up, run and clear away the stalls, as well as donating items for the Fair itself. Nearer the time we will be writing to parents with more information about the ways in which you

can help. In the meantime, we are looking for a great 1st Prize for our raffle. In previous years we have had West End theatre tickets, a brand-new balance bike and a full car valet. If anyone has connections/links to businesses that might be able to offer a 1st prize, then please contact Emma Campbell (Mum to Cameron in the morning sessions) at Emmacamp@gmail.com

Dates for later on in the school year

Friday 11th May – Zoolab Visit (Morning Children)

Zoolab will be visiting our morning children with their collection of exotic animals for the children to see and hold.

Wednesday 23rd May (afternoon children) - Petting Farm and Fun Afternoon -

Our afternoon families are invited to come to Pre-School with their child to enjoy a 'messy play' afternoon together with a visit from a petting farm. This is an opportunity for you to get 'messy' as you join in with a variety of activities and to enjoy animal handling with your child.

There will be no usual Pre-school session on this afternoon and all children should be accompanied by an adult (it doesn't have to be a parent, it can be a grandparent or any other carer) who will engage in the activities with them. We will give you more details nearer the time.

Friday 8th June – Bocketts Farm Outing Morning Children (no afternoon session on this day)

Our annual outing to Bocketts Farm will take place on Friday 8th June. More details will follow nearer the time. **Pre-School will be closed for the afternoon session on this day.**

Wednesday 11th July (morning children) - Outing to Pizza Express

Our morning children will visit Pizza Express on Wednesday 11th July where they will make their own pizza, which is baked, and children will get to take their pizza home. All morning children are invited to come on the outing, so if your child doesn't normally come to Pre-School on a Wednesday, please keep this date free if you can. A letter with more details will be sent to families nearer the time.

If you have any questions at all, or any concerns about your child, then please just let us know!

St Martin's Pre-School Team