

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021



## Welcome

Welcome back to pre-school. We hope you all had a very enjoyable summer and are looking forward to the new term. This week we welcome Annie-Rose, Blossom, James, Liliana (Lily), Olivia and their families to pre-school.

### Leaver's Gift

The leavers in the summer gave us a very generous gift of a wooden log cooker for outside, with wooden bowls and cups, and a set of puppets. Thank you!  
You can be assured they will be put to very good use!

### Danni

Over the summer Danni has decided to continue her own journey, and has accepted a TA job in a local school. Apologies that we were unable to let you know before the summer break. We are sure you will join us in wishing her all the best in her new role.



### Sun hats and sun screen

On sunny days please make sure you provide a sun hat and **put sun cream on** before you leave home.

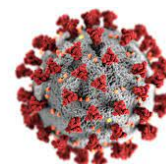


### Naming Items

Please, please remember to **name** rucksacs and bags and all items of clothing, lunch boxes and water bottles so that we know who they belong to!  
Name labels or a marker pen work equally well!

### COVID Measures

You should have all received a letter outlining the measures we will be keeping in place to reduce the risks from COVID. Please talk to one of the team if you have any queries or if you didn't receive it.



### Parents Chats

For children starting this term, we will arrange these with you individually over the next few weeks. Meetings for other children will be arranged just after half term.

### "Taking your child to an Early Years Setting - information for parents"

The attached advice has been forwarded by the Local Authority.

### Book Bags

All of our children who will be preparing for school next year are given a book bag to take home. The first bags, along with more information, will go out the week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> September.

### Invoices

Invoices will be emailed out next week. There will be one invoice for Sept & October (Term 1) and a second invoice later on for Term 2 (November & December).  
Please talk to Carrie if you have any queries.

## Little Kickers - Team-work, co-operation and co-ordination

Little Kickers sessions have been arranged for a Friday morning this term, starting on 10<sup>th</sup> September. If your child attends this session we will email more information later.

Little Kickers will be offered during terms 1&2. We will review the circumstances later in the term before we confirm whether it will operate during terms 3 & 4. Previous years we have found the weather very cold during Jan and Feb and have run sessions inside, which may not be possible if COVID risks are high.

## Starting School in September 2022?

If your child is due to start school next September then you need to apply for a school place by midnight on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The easiest way to do this is via the Wiltshire Council website: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk) and follow the link to schools.

In preparation for choosing a school it is sensible to visit several of the local primary schools if you can, to get a 'feel' for the schools and environment.

On the application form you will be able to make a first, second and third choice of schools. Please make sure you consider a second and third choice.

All children legally need to be in school the term after their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. For those summer born children (1<sup>st</sup> April - 31<sup>st</sup> August) it may be possible to defer entry, please talk to your key person if you are considering this. You will need to check whether you still have to apply by the 15<sup>th</sup> Jan.

For further information visit [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)

## 15 & 30 hours Funding, Tax-free childcare and costs!



**Free Entitlement Funding:** All children are entitled to 15 hours week (term time) from the start of the funding period (term) after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. The funding periods start on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept, 1<sup>st</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> April.

**30 Hours Funding:** If you qualify for the free entitlement from January, or if you are increasing hours in January, you may be eligible to claim an additional 15 hours. More information can be found at [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk).

**Tax-free Childcare:** You are able to create an account with HMRC, where the government pays in £20 for every £80 you pay in, to pay your childcare fees. You cannot apply if either parent uses a salary sacrifice/childcare voucher scheme at work.

Our details are Pitton Pre-School, Ofsted registration number EY248260

## Diary Dates

Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> October	End of Term 1
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Start of Term 2
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	End of Term 2

Best Wishes, Carrie, Iwona, Emma, Laura, Wendy & Becky.