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Charity Reg. No. 1057036

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2 2022

We would like to say a big thank you to everybody who supported our Halloween disco, including all the staff and committee, without whom the evening would not be possible and of course all of the families who came along. We raised the record-breaking amount of : £959.85!! Add to this £43.00 raised by the Halloween Fun Day, and over £1000.00 was fundraised! Thank you all so much.



Theme: This term we are focussing our learning around the Aesop's fable: *The Lion and the Mouse* which will open a world of learning opportunities, particularly focussing on compassion and empathy, kindness, and animals . We are also focussing on **Sustainable Development Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.** For further information on the goals, please see:

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

Your children are welcome to share any relevant items with us, including stories, games or characters.

We have also been exploring **fireworks** in relation to Bonfire night and **Diwali** and we will, of course, be celebrating **Christmas**. If your family celebrates any of these events, we would love to hear all about it and see any photographs. If you have any ideas of how we can celebrate in pre-school or would like to join in, please have a chat with your key person or Isabel.



To help us celebrate cultural and linguistic diversity and to support our activities this term, please could you send in any empty food packets, boxes or jars (clean please!) with writing on in languages other than English. We will be using these items to enrich our role play, ensuring that all of our families are represented within our setting. Thank you.

Art Projects for School: Look out for your child's festive artwork coming home soon! You can go online an order personalised merchandise, such as Christmas cards or tote bags, which will be delivered in time for Christmas. Please order by 21st November 2022.

Snack-time: To clear up any confusion about snack time: There is no need to send in snack every day for your child, and please do not send in anything other than fruit or vegetables which can be eaten raw. As stated in your welcome pack: *We will offer your child a healthy snack during each session. Please support us with this, by providing a donation of fruit, or salad, or vegetables that*

can be eaten raw, (e.g. apples, bananas, tomatoes, cucumber, carrots) once a week for all the children to share. We will offer your child a drink of milk or water at snack time. We have fresh water available throughout the day, for your child to drink.

Admissions to Primary Schools 2022: Do you have a child born between 1 Sept 2018 and 31 Aug 2019? You must apply online for a place at Primary School. Apply online at <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places> by 16th January 2023.

EYPP funding: To support learning at home and the development of Communication and Language and Literacy for all of the children, we have used some of the Early Years Pupil Premium funding to purchase a copy of *The Lion and the Mouse*, for each child. We purchased the story books from "WOB", a fabulous online second hand book shop, which follows our ethos of sustainability and our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. We are currently enjoying sharing the stories with all of the children, and we will be sending a copy home for each child to keep and share with their family, along with ideas for learning at home, within the next few weeks. We hope you will enjoy sharing these books with your children.

Clothing & Footwear: If your child is coming to pre-school wearing their wellington boots or snow boots, please ensure that they have a pair of shoes or slippers to wear indoors, to ensure their comfort for the day. Please be aware that the pre-school building is not good at retaining heat, this means that, despite the heating being on, pre-school is colder than most homes, so please ensure that your child is dressed warmly, layers are a good idea. This is in addition to the warm coat and hats and gloves which are needed for outside, every day.

Parent Readers: The children love it when their parent/carer/grandparent or friends come to pre-school to tell their favourite story, or read one of our books, to the children. Please chat to Isabel or Denise if you are able to do this.

Committee: Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM, we now have a strong committee of seven and are looking forward to a productive year ahead: *Chairperson:* Amanda Stanger supported by the *Vice Chairperson:* Kristine Likaj. *Treasurer:* Andrew Kite. *Secretary:* Katie Rowberry. *Parent/village members:* Kerry Bourton; Sharonjit Bhangu; Rachel Collins.

Family Board: Thank you to those who have sent in their family photos already, it really helps the children to settle in and have a strong sense of belonging. We use these for a display which the children love to look at and talk about. Please remember to send in (or email) a family photograph, if you have not already done so. A note on who's who would be very helpful!

Details update: Please ensure that your personal details are up to date, including changes of mobile phone numbers; trusted friends or family who may collect your child; email addresses.



Christmas: It will soon be that time again! We need your help: please donate items for the raffle and tombola stall. Suggestions: tins, toiletries, wine, chocolates, crackers, unwanted gifts, vouchers. If you have or know of any business' that would like to donate prizes or vouchers, please let Denise or Isabel know. THANK YOU.

Dates for Your Diaries:

Wednesday 7th December 13.30: Christmas Fair and Nativity at Chislet Colliery Welfare Club: Everyone is welcome, please invite your families and friends.

Please bring your child/children, dressed in their Nativity costume, to the club ready for a 13.30 start (we will supply you with a suitable costume). Please bring a change of clothing for your child to wear after the performance, so that costumes can be returned to us on the day. After a short show, we will open the fair, please stay for some fun and refreshments.



At the fair there will be an exciting variety of stalls including, amongst others: a huge tombola, a magnificent raffle, children's magnets and calendars, a cake stall, games, and refreshments. We are also hoping for a rather special visitor, who would like to see all the good boys and girls! The fair will be finished by 15.00, and the raffle will be called on the day. Please note that as this is an inset day **pre-school will be closed all day.**

Key Person Meetings: Monday 12th December, afternoon only; Thursday 15th December, morning only. Please take the opportunity to discuss how your child has settled in to pre-school and their progress through the EYFS. Please make an appointment with Isabel or Denise. Please use the yellow stickers provided, or a post-it note of your choosing, to record your child's learning and achievements or "wow" moments of which you feel proud. Alternatively, you can email these to us, for inclusion in their Learning Journals.

Holidays: Pre-school will close on **Friday 16th December at 16.00.** Term 3 starts on **Tuesday 3rd January 2023 at 9.00**

We wish you all a very (early!) Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.