



Harpole Pre-School Newsletter

Terms 5 & 6 2017

TERM TOPIC

Welcome back to our Summer Term, as always it's going to be a busy one, let's hope the sun shines on us.

Bumblebees: This term we will be looking at well known rhymes incorporating numbers, eg: 3 Little Ducks. In Term 6 we will be looking at Summer/Holidays with a variety of activities such as 'seaside', 'under the sea' etc

Butterflies: Our theme for learning for Term 5 will be based on 'Our favourite Stories', each Purple Lady has spent time organising activities based on one of their favourite stories. We will be starting with the 3 Little Pigs, week 2: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, week 3: Elmer, week 4: Norman the Slug with the Silly Shell, week 5: This is our House, week 5: Fairies.

In Term 5 we will be spending time at Forest School, where the children get to explore a forest area and learn and play in the great outdoors. We will also be introducing phonics through action songs.

Term 5 will see us embrace all things summer; covering holidays, the weather and outdoors along with our usual annual summer activities: Wet Week, Sports Day, Strawberry Picking etc. During this term we will also be preparing the children for transition to school.

SUMMER PHOTO SESSION

OPEN TO ALL

We have booked a summer photo session for Monday 15th May where all children and their siblings/family can come in and have their photo taken.

Children already in on that day will be taken through by the purple ladies (don't worry we will ensure they don't photo bomb) to have their photo taken.

Should you wish to have a family shot taken with siblings etc. there will be a list of times on the notice board.



Please remember children's sun hats and to apply sun cream in the mornings.

A basket for each room will be left in the cloak area for you to leave their hats in.

Diary Dates

- Tuesday 18th April – Teacher Training Day
- Wednesday 19th April – Pre-school re-opens
- Friday 21st April – Bags2 School Collection.
- Tuesdays starting from 25th April for 5 weeks: Forest School for Pre-School Leavers Only
- Thursdays starting from 27th April for 5 weeks: Forest School for Pre-School Leavers Only
- Monday 1st May – Closed: Bank holiday Monday
- Friday 12th May – Coffee morning with a visit from the Dental Association.
- Monday 15th May – Summer Photographs for ALL children
- Tuesday 23rd May – Parents Evening
- Friday 26th May – End of Term 5.
- Monday 5th June – Pre-school re-opens
- Tuesday 6th June – Leavers Photo
- Strawberry Picking - TBA
- Friday 23rd June – Sports Day and Toddle
- Sunday 25th June – Fun Day
- School Visits – Pre-schoolers only - TBA
- Friday 14th July – Parent and child Social Day Trip – **Pre-school CLOSED**
- Thursday 20th July – Party Day (Last day for Bumblebees and new Butterflies).
- Friday 21st July – Butterfly Pre-School Leavers Ceremony.

Pre-School Wish List

Please could you donate any of the following for this term's projects?

- Pebbles
- Large White Card
- Shells
- Back A4 card

Please bring them into Pre School and hand to a member of staff.

Many Thanks

PARKING

As always can we please ask parents, grandparents and carers to not only be mindful of other road users but respectful of residents and their driveways, in particular please drive and park carefully paying special attention to road and pedestrian safety to avoid upset and unnecessary conflict between yourselves and our neighbours.

We have had a few instances of irate interactions between the neighbours and parents which have resulted in complaints being fed back to the Parish Council regarding the Pre-school, we really do not want this progressing further and ask for you to consider where you leave your cars.

We would also ask that should you be on the receiving end of verbal mutterings that you tell a member of staff instead of getting into an argument in the street.

Thank you for your co-operation.

PARENTS EVENING – Tuesday 23rd May

We will be holding a parents evening on Tuesday 23rd May for you to come in and talk to your child's key person and look at his/her learning journey. This is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress, any concerns you may have and to look ahead to the future.

There will be a list placed on the notice board for you to book a convenient time for yourself. The times start at 6.00pm and are for 10 minutes slots only. If you feel you may require longer please see me before and we will do our best to arrange this.

NAME LABELLING

Please remember to label ALL items of children's clothes ESPECIALLY HATS to avoid confusion and loss.

There are forms available to order iron/sew on labels, please ask a member of staff for details.

DAY OUT

This is booked for Friday 14th July. More information will be placed on the notice board in due course.

Please note Pre-school will be CLOSED that day for stock take

FUNDRAISING

We would like to thank everyone who has supported our fundraising events this term, we had great success with the Pamper Evening, Quiz, Indoor Boot Sale and Smartie Tubes.

A special thank you to Lucy (Jack's mummy) for having a stall at work and raising £400.00 for the Pre-school.

To finish off the academic year we will be holding our usual sponsored obstacle course alongside our Sports Day. We will also be holding a 'Sunday Funday' on Sunday 25th June with stalls, games, face painting, bouncy castle, BBQ and much more. Please come along and bring the family, more details to follow.

SPORTS DAY & SPONSORED TODDLER

This annual event is set to take place on Friday 24th June (weather permitting); this is an enjoyable part of the summer program enjoyed by children, parents and grandparents alike. There will be a sponsored toddler around an obstacle course for children to have a go at; parents are also welcome to have a try at it☺. This will be followed by a snack and then the racing begins. There are usually 3 or 4 races per group followed as always, by the mums and dads race (not together because the dads are FAR too competitive!!!).

The usual routine for this event is that parents drop their children off at the playing field, staying to watch the obstacle course and racing. After all the exercise, parents, grandparents and children usually stay for a picnic at the playing field. **There will be no lunch session on this day.** All children not accompanied by adults should be collected from the playing field by 12.00pm

SUMMER PARTY

This will take place on Thursday 20th July and ALL children are invited regardless of whether they usually attend on that day or not.

(This will be the last day for the Bumblebee and new Butterfly children).

The session will run from 9.00am until 1.00pm. We will provide entertainment, games and party food.

I hope your child will be able to attend this party to celebrate the end of the school year.

STRAWBERRY PICKING

We hope to take the children to the strawberry fields again this year where we will pick strawberries and eat them for snack before we return to pre-school.

Notice will be given of a suitable date depending on the weather

SEPTEMBER 2017 INTAKE

September's intake is in the process of being sorted and confirmation of places will be sent out shortly.

We will be full from September so if you know of anyone who wants to start with us they will need to contact Katie to get their name on the waiting list.

Facebook & Website

Please remember to visit our website and facebook page for regular reminders of up and coming events and news.

There is also a private group that can only be seen by parents for you to share your photos etc. All these pages can be accessed via the website at:

www.harpolepreschool.co.uk

www.facebook.com/Harpole-Pre-School-128264602540

and the private group is:

www.facebook.com/groups/295670870805144

A PURPLE THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking all the staff, committee and parents for their support over the last year. Without the support and good will of some very special people we would not be the 'Outstanding' place we are, where children and families come together, belong, learn and grow. I really appreciate the extras that we can offer because of your commitment and enthusiasm for 'Purple Power'.

Thank you, I hope you enjoy all the activities we have arranged over the next 2 terms and I wish you a fabulous summer.

Sharon

FOREST SCHOOL – Pre-schoolers only

Please note that the bus will be arriving to take the Forest School children at 9.00am on both mornings and will the children will be loaded on board as soon as they all arrive. Please remember that the longer this takes the less time they will have at Forest School.

They should wear clothes that cover their arms and legs – NO SHORTS OR T SHIRTS and wellies to help to avoid scratches and stings.

We will be provided a snack and water and will be returning to pre-school at about 12.30 ish. It is always best if those going to forest school stay for lunch on that day if at all possible.

PHONICS – Pre-schoolers only

We will be introducing phonics to the Butterfly Pre-schoolers in the guise of action songs through the 'Jolly Phonic' scheme. This is but one of many phonic schemes which are used in schools.

We use this one because the songs are repeatative and easy to pick up and remember, and please be assured that whatever scheme is being used in the school they will be going to, this system WILL NOT confuse them or hinder in any way.

We are looking at getting the children to hear the pure sounds of letters which is done very well through the songs and their actions.

You will receive a CD and corresponding colouring book, if you child wishes to have a go that's great but please do not force this issue if they show no interest it will all be covered at school.

WET WEEK

We hope to be holding a wet week sometime during term 6 when the sun is shining.

We ask that your children come in clothes that you don't mind getting wet or swimming costumes and a towel.

They can also bring with them any water pistol they can manage in order to soak the staff (who will NOT be in swimming costumes) but can be soaked as much as the children can manage.

Notice will be given of this activity when the weather forecast gives us some hope that we will be able to carry this out.

PE CHANGE – Pre-Schoolers Only

When the children go to school they will be expected to be able to change into their PE kit as quickly and effortlessly as possible.

In order to give them a head start with this we will be practicing changing into a PE kit during week commencing Monday 20th June, in time for Sports Day on the Friday.

Please provide your child with a change of clothes (t shirt, shorts and plimsolls or trainers) all named and in a bag. This can be left at pre-school and we will attempt to get the children to practice changing at least once each week.

Once changed we will give them a taste of the types of PE lessons they will have once at school. Afterwards they will change back into their day clothes.

It is important that we make this as easy for the children as possible so please ensure they have simple clothes that they can manage.

LEAVERS GRADUATION CEREMONY

This will take place on Friday 21st July – all parents and leaving children are invited to attend – we will be having tea and cake followed by our medal and certificate presentation.

Times and details to be confirmed.

BAKING BAGS

A big thank you for supporting our Baking Bag initiative, we know time is precious and we all lead busy lives but the children absolutely love taking them home and looking through the photo's and comments you have shared in the books.

We hope you have enjoyed them too.

SCHOOL VISITS – Pre-schoolers only

We will be arranging to take the pre-schoolers down to Harpole Primary School to show them what a Reception Class looks and feels like. We have noticed in the past that this alleviates some of the nervousness felt by children as they can see it's not so scary. ALL the pre-schoolers are invited (even if they don't attend normally). We will walk down at 9.30am and be back about 11.00am

We do not tell children they will be going to Harpole School in September just that we are showing a classroom, we then nip over to the playing field for a quick play on the equipment. The children enjoy the trip out and are not confused by a trip to a school regardless of where they are going (to be honest I think they enjoy and remember the picnic snack and trip to the park over visiting a school classroom 😊)

However if you do not want your child to visit the school please let Sharon know.