

# South Woodham Pre School



## Summer Newsletter : July 2020

### LOOKING BACK.....

Over the last half term our Stepping Stones children have been able to return and enjoy some of the fun activities we had planned for the last half term.

They have enjoyed our role play area set up as a kitchen, a campsite and a construction site. If any parents have a job or hobby you think would interest the children and would be willing to come in and talk to the children please let us know.

At Stepping Stones the children have enjoyed lots of fun activities this half term. Their work has included planting, drawing my family, writing numbers to 10, making story books, recognizing numbers to 10, traffic safety, shape recognition, learning about the healthy food plate and completing an obstacle course.

As Sally Camp leaves us to enjoy her retirement – we wish her all the very best of luck and thank her for all her hard work here at pre-school . We would like to say a sad farewell to all our leavers and wish them all the best at their new schools and a warm welcome to our new starters in September: Amelia, Archie, Bonnie, Decland, Edward, Elissa, Ellis, Eloise, Evelyn, Flynn, Isla E, Isla S, Millie, Morné, Neve, Noah, Olivia C, Olivia-Rose, Oliver, Ollie, Oscar, Poppy P, Poppy R, Samuel, Skye, Sophie and Zachary.

### NEW ARRANGEMENTS FROM SEPTEMBER 2020:

**As it stands parents will not be able to enter the building when dropping off/picking up their children. We haven't been given any notification that this has changed however, if we do hear any updates over the summer holidays we will keep parents informed.**

**Please ensure your child brings in their own “named” sports bottle – this has worked well this half term and ensure children only drink from their own bottle.**

**Due to cleaning and potential cross contamination the children will not be able to bring into pre-school in any soft toys, blankets etc at this current time.**

### WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS HALF TERM:

#### INCREASE TO PRE-SCHOOL FEES FROM SEPTEMBER APRIL 2020

Please note we have had to make a small increase to the fees that we charge:-

Morning session : £11.10

Lunch Club : £5.00

Afternoon session : 13.30

#### PRE-SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER

Please note pre-school will be closed all day on both Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September for staff first aid training.

## **ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Please be aware that we will always try our best to keep pre-school open in severe weather conditions but if we are forced to close a message would be placed on our website and Facebook page.

**PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE ensure you send your child to pre-school in appropriate clothing/footwear for the season. All items of clothing including jackets and hats should be named. Appropriate footwear worn for safe play in the garden and inside. If your child wears wellie boots on their journey to pre-school please ensure they have appropriate shoes to change into.**

**If you are potty training your child please supply a few changes of clothes in their bag for ‘accidents’, including shoes. We do have spare clothes, but are limited on choice/sizes.**

## **APPEAL FOR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS & FUNDRAISERS**

As you are all aware we rely heavily on our Committee through the support of our parents. We have had quite a few members leave this year and really need more parents to join. If you feel this is something you would like to be involved with please speak contact any of the current Committee members or speak to a member of staff. Please be aware that a role on the Committee can be as little as giving up a few hours for any events that are being held or a more involved role as one of our Officers.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT WHETHER YOU CHOOSE TO PAY YOUR FEES MONTHLY, HALF TERMLY OR TERMLY PAYMENTS SHOULD BE MADE AT THE BEGINNING OF A MONTH OR AT THE BEGINNING OF THE TERM.**

### **NON-PAYMENT OF FEES:**

**IF FEES ARE NOT PAID PROMPTLY THE COMMITTEE WILL NOW BE PUTTING A FREEZE ON “PAID FOR” SESSIONS AND ANY “EXTRAS” THAT ARE NOT COVERED BY FUNDING I.E. LUNCHES. PLEASE BE AWARE AS A CHARITY WE RELY ON PROMPT PAYMENT OF FEES TO ALLOW US TO MEET ALL OF OUR FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS.**

### **OUR FAMILY BOARD:**

We continue to use our ”Family Board” and would ask that any children who haven’t already done so to bring in a photograph of their family and/or extended family. This board is used to celebrate diverse family structures, cultures and religions and to encourage the children to talk about their own relations and identify and embrace similarities and differences.

### **ADVENTURE ISLAND WRISTBANDS**

Quick reminder we have Adventure Island wristbands on sale at £13.00 each for green and red wristbands and £17.00 for blue bands. You can purchase these from the office at pre-school during term time or alternatively outside of pre-school hours through our Facebook Closed Group.

### **NUMBER FOR REPORTING ABSENCES: 01245 425746**

Could we please ask that any absences be made either by email to [management@southwoodhampreschool.co.uk](mailto:management@southwoodhampreschool.co.uk) or by leaving a voicemail message on the landline.

## SICKNESS/DIARRHOEA:

Please allow 48 hours from the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea before your child returns to pre-school.

## REMINDERS:

**Could we remind parents that if your child is staying for lunch they require a drink to be provided either in a sports style bottle or in a carton with a straw. Also, chocolate biscuits such as Penguin, Kitkat etc are fine but no chocolates or sweets and no NUTS. Thank you for your continued support.**

## PACKED LUNCHES

**Can we please draw parents' attention to the guidelines set out for packed lunches. Please NO nuts or nut products should be brought into pre-school. Could parents please write your child's name INSIDE and OUTSIDE of their lunch box/bag as we have a few that are the same and lastly please ensure all children bring in with them a drink in a sports style bottle. Many thanks for your support.**

Healthy Packed Lunches for Early Years - A practical Guide for Parents and Carers can be found at [www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/childrens-food-trust/early-years](http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/childrens-food-trust/early-years)

## PANTOSAURUS.

Talking PANTS teaches children important messages, like their body belongs to them and they should tell an adult if they're upset or worried. Please take the time to watch this short animation and share with your child.



<https://youtu.be/-iL07JOGU5o>

## YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT

If you have any concerns about your child's speech please speak with your key person at any time. Also, you can access an on-line basic assessment at [www.talkingpoint.org.uk](http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk) which gives guidance to parents about the ages/stages of a child's speech development.

## SCOOTERS/BIKES

Unfortunately, we are unable to store any scooters/bikes during the day while your children are at pre-school.



Please join us at our new Facebook Closed Group.

## Special Requests:

Late arrivals and late collections can cause distress to the children. Please be prompt when dropping off/picking up your child and please ensure you inform us of any new contact numbers etc for your child's records – particularly emergency contacts and any dietary/allergy needs your child has.

## UNIFORM

Please fill out an order form, which can be found in the foyer. We also have a selection of second hand uniform that we sell for 50p-£1 per item.

### Price List:

T-shirt	£5.50
Polo Shirt	£7.50
Sweatshirt	£10.50
Fleece	£12.50
Book Bag	£5.00
Cap	£5.50

### TERM DATES:

Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Day of Term
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Stepping Stones Collection of Folders/Tapestry Discs *
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> -Weds 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Closed for Staff First Aid Training
Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Start of Autumn Term
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Last Day of Half Term
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term Holidays
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Start of New Half Term
Weds 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day of Term
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Stepping Stones Nativities
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2021	Christmas Holidays
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2021	Staff Training Day
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Start of New Term
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Last Day of Half Term
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term Holidays
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Start of new Half Term
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Last Day of Half Term
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Start of New Term
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Last Day of Half Term
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> -Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Half Term Holidays
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Start of New Half Term
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Day of Term
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Stepping Stones Graduations

\* Parents will be contacted individually for their allotted time.

Wishing everyone a lovely summer holiday break and look forward to seeing you back on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September!

