

Newsletter

Frome Valley Preschool

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Dates for your diary

STAFFING

Sadly Becci left us at the end of last half term so we have now appointed a new member of staff. Constance will be joining our team shortly.

Emma is now the deputy manager of the preschool on a full time basis so any concerns you have when I am not here should be directed to Emma.

Paula is increasing her hours and will now be with us on a Monday and Friday all day and a Wednesday morning.

Kylie will now be our SENCo.

WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 1st March it is World Book Day. To celebrate we will be coming into preschool in our pyjamas and reading our favourite stories throughout the day.

The children can bring in their favourite stories throughout the week for us to read with our friends.

Please make sure that any books you bring in are clearly named.

SELF REGISTRATION

We will be introducing self registration for the children again, but it will not be a daily exercise as we will be varying their registration processes to equip them for school. This is an exercise for the children to complete independently as it is something they will do when they begin in reception. Can we please ask that you encourage your child to do this themselves.

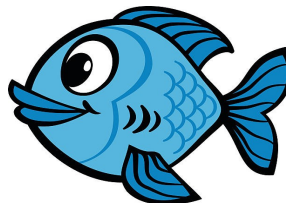


Play, learn and grow together

END OF TERM TRIP

We had decided on going to the Sealife Centre for our trip, but it has been brought to my attention that it doesn't open until 11am which maybe a little late for us.

I am just waiting to hear back from the Sealife to see if we can get in earlier so I can confirm a date and information with you all, so please watch this space.....



PICK UPS

A reminder to say please could you let us know who is collecting your child if it is different from yourself.

ARRIVING AT PRESCHOOL

Can we remind you when waiting to come into preschool in the mornings you prevent your children from ringing the buzzer in the main foyer or playing with the lock on the automatic doors.

As part of our school readiness it is really important that all the children arrive at preschool for the start of the session. We will be starting the day, on occasions, with group time so it is important that the children are here and ready to participate altogether.

It is also important to remind you that due to safeguarding the children, the gate will be locked at 9:10am and 12:10pm

READING IS FUN.

I am currently attending an Incredible Beginnings course which is encouraging new and improved ways of building relationships with the children in our setting and you as parents.

It teaches us how to promote language, how to socially and emotionally coach the children whilst being proactive teachers and using positive behaviour management. This course will enable all of the staff to look at our current practices and improve them to benefit the care, education and emotional development of your child.

One of the major benefits is reading to your children, you will see that I have included two handouts with this newsletter with the benefits on reading to your child everyday for 10 minutes and the things you can do to make reading a more special and beneficial time for both you and your child.

If you have any questions on this programme please ask me and I will be happy to chat with you.

Thursday 1st March

World Book Day.

Thursday 29th March.

End of Term.

Monday 16th April.

Start of the Summer Term.

Monday 16th April.

School places released.

Details of all Preschool and School Diary events can also be found on the calendar of the school website:

www.fromevalley.dorset.sch.uk/website/

AIMING HIGH

We are working towards incorporating more physical play for the children. This will include using larger equipment within our P.E times and making these sessions more frequent.

We will also be encouraging the children to play outside on the grassed area to encourage more control and balance when participating in physical activities.

We are also starting to give the children more lead in their own learning and development. For a long time the term 'Child led play' has been misunderstood as just repeating activities children appear to enjoy. Whereas it is actually more focused on allowing children to explore activities in their own unique way and using descriptive commentary on what they are doing rather than bombarding them with questions.

We are hoping this will not only increase the children's language development but also their learning and development in all areas of the EYFS.

OUR SUCCESSES

The children are still enjoying learning Makaton and we are learning new signs and words every week. We have even observed the children using them whilst in their own play with each other.



We have also noticed an increase in problem solving behaviour. The children have shown a greater understanding on the differences of sharing and turn taking. We have observed the children using their Makaton signs and problem solving language in their play with peers. We have observed the children using the sand timers in order to wait their turn for a toy in a fair way. We are very proud of all the children.

The children have also really enjoyed our focus on Chinese New Year. The children have enjoyed learning about the carnivals, the decorations and traditions, listening to Chinese drumming and most of all, the food. It was a successful project for all of the children.

WHAT WE ARE DOING NEXT

Next month we will be looking at our favourite stories. We will be introducing a discussion with the children on "what is our favourite story?" and doing a vote with the children. The four most popular stories will be our weekly focus throughout March.

We will discuss with the children what activities we can do relating to the stories and therefore leading a completely child led curriculum.

We will also be focussing in on other events throughout March such as Mother's day and we will be investigating the celebration of Easter and what it means.



WHAT YOU CAN ENCOURAGE AT HOME

To support the children's learning in the setting at home you could:

Encourage your child to look at both fiction and non-fiction books.

Read for 10 minutes together as much as possible.

Allow your child to explore the book at their own pace, allowing them to comment on the pictures or turn the pages for themselves.

Let your child bring in their favourite story from home to show peers and read at preschool.

Encourage your child to recognise our letter of the week out in the environment and at home.

HOME LEARNING.

We are trying to strengthen the relationships between staff and parents and a way this has been done in the past is to send home learning sheets for you to do. This has been a busy start to the year for me and there has been many learning curves along the way so certain things that were being done before, haven't always been achieved.

I am intending on sending some sheets home to encourage letter and sound recognition and also things we will be working on for "school readiness" for you to encourage with your children to complete at home.

It is not essential for you to do these worksheets with your children but obviously it helps support your child's learning and the readiness for school. We do understand that you are busy parents and it is not always possible to do this so please don't worry.

I am always open for feedback and ideas on what is best for you as parents regarding home learning, information sharing or anything to do with your child's development. You can either catch me at drop off or pick up times or you can contact me to arrange a more specific time for a chat.

Thank you again for your continued support.