



Little Dragons Pre-School

Newsletter

Term 1 2019

Happy Birthday!

We would like to wish Ben, Ella and Laith a happy 4th birthday and Isobel and Emmy a happy 3rd birthday. We would also like to wish Linda a happy birthday.

Welcome

We would like to welcome Rosie, Charlotte and Ava and their families to Pre-School. We hope you settle quickly and enjoy making new friends with us.

Learning Topics

Every half term (or few weeks) we think of a theme we would like to cover, for example 'animals' or 'transport' etc. We base some of our play and activities around this theme and take some lead from the children as to how we will adapt these or expand on them. We also incorporate their current interests and the next steps (linked to the curriculum) they are working towards with us in Pre-school.

Show and tell

We have a weekly show and tell day - this means that during the term there will be several opportunities for your child to take part - sharing an item of their choice from home. This term we will be concentrating on 'colours' and will look at a different one each week. Please can you encourage your child to bring an item of the weekly colour to share with us. These items can then stay on our colour table for the week if they wish. *Unless your child is reliant on a comforter, we are asking that no other toys/items come into Pre-school from home.*

We also have fantastic sheets that can be written any day and are a lovely way to share a recent achievement - getting dressed, sleeping in own bed, toilet training, swimming, a trip to the dentist/doctor etc.

Show and tell day's:

Tuesday 17.09.19 - Blue Wednesday 25.09.19 - Red Thursday 03.10.19- Green

Friday 11.10.19 - Yellow Monday 14.10.19- Yellow Tuesday 22.10.19 - Brown

Home - School - link

- Talk to your child about Preschool, the staff, routine, clothes they will wear and things they will be bringing with them. Answer any questions they may have and talk to us if you or they have any queries. Draw pictures, take photos of uniform if you have it etc.

If your child would like to share any information, pictures or photos you generate from taking part in any of these activities please do encourage them to do so!!

Useful information

A few reminders

- The Pre-school day starts at 9am and we encourage you to stay with your child for the 'Hello' song.
- All children need a named drinks bottle with water in and a piece of fruit/vegetable which can be cut up and shared at snack time for every session they attend.
- All children need a named spare outfit - top, bottoms, underwear and socks (accidents can and will happen even to the cleanest and most careful children!), a pair of wellies and a waterproof coat with them for every session they attend. The weather can change quickly and we will access outside even if it's raining. You can leave these items on their pegs throughout the term if it's easier.
- If your child has had any medication in the 48hrs prior to their session with us please do inform their Key Person, even if it was only Calpol.
- If your child has had diarrhoea or sickness, they will need to stay away from Pre-school for 48hrs from their last bout. This is written in our policy and must be adhered to at all times.
- If you are unable to collect your child yourself please ensure we have the name of the person who will, written in their file. In an emergency we will need a clear description of the person collecting and a password that you can both confirm before we will allow your child to leave the setting.
- Please ensure you collect your child promptly at the end of their session as failure to do so will result in a fine.

Coffee Morning

We are going to hold a coffee morning in aid of our local Prospect Hospice. This is a charity close to a lot of our hearts and we hope to raise a good amount of money for them.

We would like to invite you to stay (or come if your child isn't usually in on a Thursday) for coffee and cake straight after circle time on Thursday 19th September. If you would like to bake/provide us with a cake (or little cakes) to sell on the day we would also appreciate that too. 😊 Please see a member of staff if you need more details - we hope to see you there!

Playground

The formal opening of the Ogbourne St George Playground
Village Hall Friday 20th September at 3.15 pm

The Parish Council would like to invite you to a celebration to mark the opening of the new playground equipment. Refreshments - tea and cake - will be available in the Village Hall after a short opening ceremony. The Councillors look forward to meeting you all with your children, for a fun tea!

Parent lunch

We would like to invite you to join the children for lunch on Tuesday October 15th. They always love having a parent/carer join them for lunch and it's a lovely way for you to meet other parents and see your children socialising with their peers. Please come in at 12pm, bring a sandwich and stay for our lunch hour. If your child doesn't usually attend on a Tuesday, you are both welcome to join us from 12pm-1pm.

Committee information

We are a charity and committee run which means we rely completely on fundraising to keep us going. We could not run the Pre-school without a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and other members to support us.

Would you like to be on our committee? There is not too much to do but you do need to be able to attend an evening meeting once every 6-8 weeks. Other than that, we just need lots of support and enthusiasm! It is a really good way to meet other mums and dads and indeed have a say in the running of your child's Pre-school. Please do let any of the staff know if you are interested or speak to Neil (our Chair).

Fundraising

Little Dragons is a charity that is registered with Easy Fundraising, which is a charity shopping fundraising site. Easy Fundraising can be downloaded as an app on your phone or your PC, allowing you to donate a percentage of any money you spend with online retailers donate to Little Dragons Pre-school.

Some of the retailers that will make a donation are:

Amazon

eBay

Boots

Marks and Spencer's

Argos

Waitrose

In total over 3,200 retailers.

All you need to do is download the app and when you are shopping, launch the retailer through the app and Easy Fundraising will do the rest.

So far nearly £500 has been raised for Little Dragons using Easy Fundraising so every penny really does count.

Facebook

In addition to our monthly newsletter we have our own closed Facebook page 'Friends of Little Dragons Pre-school' and our Website www.littledragons.org where you can keep up to date with upcoming events and see a flavour of what we do as the year goes by. Please do join/save these links - the Facebook page is a great place to chat to other parents and ask each other questions etc.

Up-coming events

- Thursday 19th September- Coffee morning (see information above)
- Wednesday 16th September- Ready Steady Listen - see information in your child's drawer
- Tuesday 8th October- Drama session- no parent input needed
- Tuesday 15th October- Parent lunch
- Wednesday 23rd October - Last day of term 1
- Wednesday 23rd October - Halloween Party - see leaflet in your child's drawer and poster on door
- Monday 4th November - Term 2 starts

Please can we remind you the newsletters can always be found on our website. We encourage you to check the website regularly. We also ask that you read your emails and check the notice boards - on the front door and in the foyer.

Safeguarding

We take safeguarding very seriously at our Pre-school. Everyone working with children has a 'duty of care'. Young children are vulnerable and this means that we must do everything we can to keep our children safe from harm. We have a 'Duty of Care' statement on our noticeboard in the foyer and we urge you to familiarise yourselves with this short document.

Our safeguarding lead is Linda and our deputy is Helen and all staff regularly update their safeguarding knowledge. Please feel free to ask any questions or raise any concerns.

Quote of the month

We use this space each month to write a quote we have heard one of the children say - it is just a bit of fun and often results in a smile after you have dutifully read the newsletter!