**OUGHTRINGTON PRE-SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

**September - October 2023**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week Commencing** | **Colour** | **Letter & Sound** | **Topic** |
| 04/09/23 | Green | P p | Welcome to Preschool |
| 11/09/23 | Yellow | M m | All about me – Ourselves |
| 18/09/23 | Red | R r | All about me – Relationships |
| 25/09/23 | Black | S s | Nursery Rhymes and Fairy Tales |
| 02/10/23 | Green | B b | Nursery Rhymes and Fairy Tales |
| 09/10/23 | Brown | A a | Autumn – Trees |
| 16/10/23 | Orange | W w | Autumn – Colours |
| 23/10/23 | Yellow | A a | Autumn – woodland Animals |
| Friday 27th October 2022 | | | Half term Break |
| Monday 6th November 2022 | | | Re-open |

# Messages from the Supervisor

*All the staff would like to say ‘Many Thanks for the lovely, generous gifts and the appreciative, kind messages in the cards’ they really do warm our hearts at the end of a busy year.*

We hope this Newsletter finds you all well and in positive spirits. We are very excited to be welcoming back some familiar faces and new ones to Preschool, we have been busy over the holidays to develop new areas to explore, and these include a new Zen den indoors, a den making area and a bug hotel outdoors.

We have also attached the letter detailing your admission application procedure to Primary school for those children leaving us in September 2024.

**Breakfast Club is back this term!**

Preschool are offering a breakfast club where children aged 2yr -9yr can attend from 7-45am, this includes a breakfast, consisting of cereal, toast and fruit. Those children attending Oughtrington Primary school will be escorted to the Playground by a member of staff @ 8-45am at the cost of £5-50 per day.

We do hope this is successful and we are able to keep it open throughout, however this is dependent on numbers, so please spread the word!

As some of you are aware, Mrs Chrystal and Mrs Allardyce has moved on, we will miss them but wish her every success in her new role.

*Please advise your key person of any contact details updates or allergies your child may have difficulties with.*

**The Free Early Years Entitlement (FEYE)**

All children receive 15 hours free provision across 38 weeks, the term after their third birthday. The government are making some interesting changes that include:

* Reduced ratio- 1:5 for 2yrs in our settings FROM September 2023.
* Free 15 hr funding for 2 yr olds from April 2024 for working parents
* Free 15 hr funding for 9mths – 3yr olds from September 2024 for working parents
* Free 30 hr funding for 9mths 3yr olds from September 2025 for working parents.

Our invoices will be issued w/c 18h September, they will show the balance for the term (14 week period) These can be paid either weekly, monthly or in full. We are also registered on most of the voucher schemes, so if you do need a code of more information please just email. All that we do ask is that all balances are paid by the date specified.

More information on free entitlements and benefits towards childcare costs can be found at [www.childcarechoices.com](http://www.childcarechoices.com)

***And now for the good stuff!***

To start our new term, we will be welcoming the children with lots of favourites and familiar toys and activities, drawing on their fascinations and play preferences. It will offer us an opportunities to learn about your Summer adventures and introduce the children to the Preschool routines and the learning environment.

We will move on to exploring the topic: ‘All about Me’, where we will be focusing on how we are all unique, our talents and preferences. We will also be exploring with the children what family means to them, exploring a range of different relationships between kin and generations. This topic allows us to connect school and home and develops the relationships between the adults and the children.

*Please send in family photographs and drawings, these may include special events and experiences, as we will be a displaying these in the Pre School main room.*

We will move on to Nursery rhymes and Fairy tales, offering the traditional stories and songs. This will allow us to offer story sacks and puppet play, focusing on sequencing events, recall and develop language and imaginative skills. We will offer drama workshops and activities relating to the three little pigs, Goldilocks and the three bears and The Three Billy Goat Gruff

The autumn topic will allow us to look at seasonal changes. We will be experimenting with ‘gloop’ to investigate producing typical autumn shades, we will allow look at leaves, focusing on different shapes and how these relate to different trees.

We hope to go on a sponsored welly walk to Spud wood, this date will be confirmed nearer the time. (W/c 23rd October)

We will continue to offer jolly phonics activities in developing phonic awareness, disco dough for supporting fine motor skills, Makaton signing and music and movement carpet time sessions.

The Read, Write, Ink programme will allow us to introduce our weekly letter and we will continue to

Monday PM.- Yoga session

Wednesday PM – PE -Circuit training.

***PE sessions***

You will need to provide a bag with a change of clothes: T-Shirt, Joggers/shorts and appropriate footwear (Velcro / slip-ons)

We encourage the children’s independence skills in preparation for big school...... it does take some time!

Weekly activities will be posted on our Face book page. Please make a request to join!

The focus on play is fostered at Preschool, this is the children work... and how we will be supporting their learning through the Early Years Foundation stage. We will also continue to implement loose part play and develop opportunities to foster the curiosity approach to children’s learning and development.

**Home learning links**

Please take a look at the links in supporting your child’s learning and development through the Early Years foundation Stage:

<https://www.eyfshome.com/>

Oughtrington Primary School use the Read Write Ink Programme for literacy, if you would like to support and familiarise your child with the programme follow:

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/>

# Fund Raising

Monday 25th September – Dress up week, attend in your PJ, favourite character for a small donation.

Easyfundraising, please take a look at this very simple way of donating to Preschool, as the link provides us with a percentage donation when your shopping online, including John Lewis, Amazon, Pretty little thing and many more !

*easyfundraising.org*

Please remember that we are collecting, clothing and textiles at Pre School throughout the year. A schedule of our fundraising events will be available shortly.

**Preschool logo clothing**

We do have a selection of logo’d polo (£9-00) and sweaters (£11-50) available, in a range of colours.If you would like to pre-order please speak to Mrs Jemma Walsh.

**Messages from the Volunteer Management Committee**

# We would like to thank the hard work and dedication of the staff, raising approximately £1500-00 last year. These proceeds are vital in order to provide rich and quality opportunities for all the children. If you would like to get involved in events please speak with Mrs Claire Royle

We would like to thank all the parents that have supported the preschool by attending events, making donations and doing parent duty helpers. We would also like to extend our wishes for future successes to all the children that will be moving on to Primary school.

We also have lots of availability to purchase one off sessions throughout the term, these can be booked with any member of staff.

As committee members, we would encourage you to join us at our next **AGM.** This will be held on **Wednesday 25th October 2023.**

We would be keen to gather your thoughts about how you would like this to be shared, either by a Zoom meeting or on site at Preschool, your input on venue and timing are valued in ensuring your participation. We will be gathering your thoughts via a poll at Preschool.

In ensuring the continued success of the Pre School, if you would like to be involved with the management committee, we would welcome interest before the AGM, in order to offer support, guidance and information, please raise your interest with a member of staff.

More information on Management committees and the nature of voluntary charitable organisations can be found on the Pre-school Learning Alliance Website. The Pre‑school Learning Alliance is the largest early years membership organisation and voluntary sector provider of quality affordable childcare and education in England. [https://www.**pre-school**.org.uk](https://www.pre-school.org.uk)

*Lastly, Welcome to Preschool, we hope you will enjoy your time with us, we know that you will make lifelong friendships and your children will thrive in our nurturing and homely setting. We as a committee wish all the children success on their learning journey.*

*Rachel Burchell, Committee Chair*