



Silverstone
Pre-School

Issue 2
12.02.2021

Parent's Newsletter

Useful information

A MASSIVE Thank You

We would like to say a MASSIVE thank you to all of our parents for their continued support in our fundraising efforts, especially with our JustGiving page! We set out to raise a target of £500 for a new climbing frame for our outdoor play area and we said if we exceeded that amount then the additional money would go towards added resources needed for our outdoor area. We smashed our £500 in 24 hours!! We have been completely overwhelmed and so honoured with the amount of support we have been shown, especially in these difficult times! Our JustGiving page is still live and can be found on our Facebook page if you would like to donate and the additional money raised will be going towards some wonderful ideas and plans we have had that could now be possible!

Our Term Three fundraising events were as follows...

- Firefighters Collection
- JustGiving Funding Page

These events collectively have raised us a fundraising profit of **£622!** We are still waiting for the final amount from our latest Firefighters Collection and the JustGiving page is currently still live. That brings our total for fundraising so far this academic year to **£1,183.50**. Thank you so much to all who have contributed to any of these fundraisers. Watch this space for some new purchases to enhance the play and learning of the children!

A little about why we fundraise...

We are a charity run organisation, which means that we do not get any funding for the business from the government. We fundraise to ensure that this local pre-school can run and remain open, which makes all of our fundraising efforts so important. We have managed to raise an amazing amount so far this academic year, but we still need to continue to fundraise to ensure that pre-school remains operational.

We have many things that we have to pay out as a business, such as staff wages, liability insurance, rent of our premises, etc. so ensuring we raise as much as we can to cover all outgoings plus more for new resources and experiences is really why we pour so much into fundraising events. This is also why we ask for donations and volunteers, as we simply cannot run successful fundraisers without the support of all of our parents too.

Parents of children aged 3 and 4 years qualify for either 15 or 30 hours of funding from the government, dependant on eligibility. We would like to share with you an insight into the difference a funded child space pays compared to a paying child space to help our parents to understand another reason why fundraising is so important to us...

- The Government pays **£3.66** per hour per funded child.
- The actual cost of running the pre-school is **£5.50** per hour per child.

- That is a shortfall of **£1.84** per hour per funded child which we then have to raise as a charity run setting. As a result of this we are continuously looking for fundraising opportunities within the village and the wider community.

If you have any ideas or inspiration for fundraising that you think we could use then please let us know, we are happy to listen and try to implement as many ideas as we possibly can to help our lovely village pre-school to thrive.

Upcoming fundraising events this term

- JustGiving Page
- Mother's Day Ceramics (shhh, don't tell the mummies! Dad's this is on you!)

Donations

We would really love your help with the following...

- Magazine
- Newspapers
- Corks
- Shells
- Cardboard boxes
- Milk bottles and lids
- Cereal boxes
- Egg boxes
- Anything from your recycling we could use for junk modelling!

Pre-School News

As you are all aware, we said goodbye to Dawn and Sarah G last week who chose to take voluntary redundancies. We wish them well with the next chapters of their lives and we are sure they will be successful in whatever they choose to do next!

Our manager Emily and her now fiancé Nick got engaged this week! – Huge congratulations to the both of them and we wish them all the happiness.

Keeping In Touch

We understand that some parents are still choosing to keep their children at home for their own personal reasons/choices. We just ask that you keep in touch! We miss all the children that are not here at the moment so please upload posts onto tapestry, we would love to see what they are getting up to!

Please also remember to email Emily and let her know when you are thinking of returning as we will need notice to ensure we have the correct staff ratios for your child's return. Emailing on a Friday asking for them to come back the following week just won't be enough time for us to arrange this. Thank you!

Mother's Day

We have some lovely and exciting ideas to do with the children for Mother's Day but these will be sent to daddies email addresses so please keep an eye out for these! We would love for these to be a surprise so lets keep it hush hush!

For those wonderful mummies that do not have daddy's help, don't worry! We will email you and keep what we are doing as secret as we can.

We are even going to wrap items here, so the hard work is done and it means no peeking!!

What a term we've had!

The children have enjoyed an exciting third term, with plenty more village walks, even in the snow and the very cold weather, taking in their community and talking about the world around them. The children have learnt about different topics, such as Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and focusing on Superworm for National Storytelling week. We spoke about the different cultures and why we celebrate different occasions. The children have enjoyed building towers and structures with our new large building blocks, creating lots of different craft pictures and exploring with different malleable play, such as string for noodles!



Drinks

Polite Reminders

Please can we take this opportunity to remind parents that drinks are to be provided by parents at the moment due to us being unable to provide our normal drinking station with the current COVID-19 guidelines. It is important that all children have a drink with them at each session. Thank you.

Appropriate Attire

We ask parents to please be mindful when packing their children's bags. Please take into consideration the weather conditions and pack appropriate clothing. Coats, hats, gloves and wellies will be needed as the weather is colder, these can be kept in a clearly labelled bag here at pre-school for the week but will need to be taken home at the end of your last session for that week. We ask that if your child is in nappies, that you please pack enough nappies and wipes for their session. We also ask that you pack spare clothes as we do sometimes have accidents and we love to get messy!

Tapestry

We continue to enjoy uploading all the fun and experiences your children have done whilst at pre-school but we do ask that parents also upload experiences from home and continue to like and comment on the posts uploaded by their key person to show good relationships between home and pre-school.

We also encourage parents to complete the 'All About Me' section on their child's tapestry (this can be found on the desktop version, not the app and will appear when you click on the child's profile), this helps us to understand and have some insight into your child's home life, culture and interests which we can then incorporate into their learning here at pre-school.

Lost Property

We currently have a 'Lost Property' box that we have been putting out. Can we ask that you take the time to look through this and claim anything that belongs to your child. This is added to daily so please ensure you are checking it regularly.

Dates for diaries

12.02.2021 – Pre-School Closes at 12.30pm

15.02.2021 – **19.02.2021** – Half Term

22.02.2021 – Pre-School Reopens at 9.00am
