

Old Court News



Welcome to our April Newsletter

Welcome back to all our Teddy Tots and Busy Bears and we hope you all had a good Easter break. We especially welcome any new families and children joining us this term.

As a Pre-School we are proud to be able to support children as they prepare for their next big adventure, 'big school', and the need to be independent in everyday tasks. These skills are especially important in these unusual times and we really appreciate your continued support in helping your child to learn these skills at home.

Please visit our Facebook page for up-to-date information and events

www.facebook.com/oldcourtcommunitypreschool

Please note this is run by committee members so is not to be used for important information

Our AGM is Thursday 20th May at 7pm

Would you like to help make our Pre-School great and keep it open?

As a charity, our Pre-School can only operate due to the provision of a Committee who help with the running of the setting alongside the staff. A number of our committee members are due to step down as their children have moved on to school. As a result, we have some roles that will need to be filled if the committee is to continue and the pre-school remain open. These roles include:

Essential Roles: Chair of Preschool Committee, Secretary, Data Protection Lead, Health & Safety Lead, Safeguarding Lead

Other Roles: General administration, including messages on Facebook, organising fundraising, including project management, investigating new sources of funding, dealing face to face with organisations or behind the scenes.

If you would be interested in finding out more about this or would like to talk to any of the committee members, please let the office know or email oldcourt@talktalk.net for details. Alternatively, please join us for outdoor AGM* in the Pre-School Garden (weather and Covid restrictions permitting) on Thursday 20th May 2021 at 7pm to meet the team.

*if we are unable to meet outdoors, the AGM will be held via Zoom.

Dates for the Diary

AGM

Thursday 20th July, 7pm

May Half Term

Closed Monday 31st May to Friday 5th June

Summer Holiday

Last day of term: Wednesday 21st July

Children Starting School in September 2021

If you have a child starting school in September 2021, please can you let us know which school they will be attending please so that we can make arrangements for a smooth transition.

Summer Sun



As we enter the summer months, please can we remind all parents to ensure you apply one of the 8 hour sun creams to your child in the morning before pre-school and that they have a named sun hat and sun cream for Pre-School.

Please can you also ensure that your child's lunchbox contains an ice pack.



PE for Busy Bears

The children in Busy Bears will be having PE sessions this term and please can all the children who are going to school in July bring a PE bag into pre-school with a change of clothes (with their names on), including suitable footwear. It is important that children get used to getting changed into and out of PE kits ready for when they start school and we would appreciate it if the bag could be left in the setting so that we can access them when needed.



Also, please can all parents ensure their children have suitable shoes for playing and climbing outdoors. Physical activity is a large part of our day, especially in the good weather, so it is important that the children have the safe shoes to do this.



New Memorial Hall Fence

The fence alongside the Memorial Hall has now been fixed so if you are collecting your child from the side gate, please ensure you walk around to the side entrance via Old Court road as you can no longer cut across the memorial hall grounds

And the Survey says...

Parents and carers are being asked for their views to ensure health visiting services and children centre services in Wiltshire continue to meet the needs of families into the future. Wiltshire Council is asking parents of 0 – 5 year old children to complete a survey asking questions about what works well, what needs improving and how they would like to be contacted and supported by these services.

Currently, Virgin Care provide health visiting services and The Rise Trust and Spurgeons provide children's centre services with contracts that both end at the same time in 2023. Wiltshire Council wants to hear from people who use these services as it plans further ahead.

The survey questions include what people understand about the role of the health visitor and any changes they would like. Parents and carers are also asked how they would like to access or use the local health visiting and children's centre services in the future. This could include appointments at local venues, drop in sessions, phone calls, text, video call or via other digital platforms including WhatsApp, Facebook or a parenting website.

The survey is available until midnight on 12 May 2021 using the following link:

<https://surveys.wiltshire.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=161608259146>

Birthday Cakes



A number of parents have asked whether they can send cakes in with a child for their birthday. At this time, can we request that if parents want to do this, they send small individually wrapped items please so that it can be taken home instead of handled at the preschool.