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Summer Term 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all having a good Easter break. Although the weather could have been a bit better!

The end of term show ‘The Three Little Pigs’ was a huge success. The children were amazing and we were so very proud of them. The coffee/tea/croissants raised over a £100 – thank you so much for your support. This money will be going towards new bark that has been ordered for the mud kitchen.

I thought I would update you on what has been happening at the nursery and future diary dates.

**Staff News**

* I am more than happy to say that Tilly will be taking on the role of Deputy Manager from September when Nicki leaves. Tilly has worked at the nursery for nearly four years and has been an invaluable member of the team during that time. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Tilly in her new job role.
* Last term we sadly sad goodbye to Vicki Ellis who left nursery to become a TA in a school nearer to home.
* We welcomed Andrea Tothne Kazinczi who has joined the nursery team as an Early Years Assistant.
* Unfortunately, Sophie Low will not be returning to the nursery when her maternity leave ends. May I take this opportunity of wishing her all the best for the future.
* Holly Fox will be joining the nursery team as an Early Years Educator/SENCO in September. Holly has been working for the last 6 years as a Kindergarten Room Leader at a school/nursery and holds a Level 3 Childcare and Education Diploma. We cannot wait to welcome Holly to our team.

**Upcoming Fundraising Events**

Sunday 21st April – Nursery Thrift Sale 10am-12:30pm (Chiddingfold Village Hall)

This week may be a good opportunity to have a really good sort out of those unwanted books, toys, clothes shoes etc. You can leave your items in the village hall entrance porch the first week back during nursery hours (w/c 15th April) – there will be no need to ring the bell as we will be checking regularly. Please spread the word to all your friends and family to come to the Thrift Sale and pick up a bargain!! Proceeds of this event will help towards the ‘Dinosaur and Fossil Dig’ interactive workshop that has been booked to visit the nursery.

Saturday 18th May 2024 – ChiddFest 12noon – 8pm

We will be having several stalls at ChiddFest this year. The stalls we will be running are:

* Decorate your own wand and/or sword
* Popcorn
* Sweets Stall - instead of asking for donations of actual sweets from parents we would like to ask if you could possibly spare a pound or two and we will source and buy the sweets to sell. We will have a collection box available and a card payment device if that is easier. Thank you so much for your support, we really do appreciate it.
* Loaning our toy cars and bikes to be used for free in a play area for children.

All profit we make from these stalls we are allowed to keep. We are hoping to buy a new climbing frame set so any money raised will go towards this.

We have also agreed to perform at ChiddFest this year. When I say “we” I do mean the nursery children! I thought they could perform the songs from our show The Three Little Pigs. I believe we will be performing in the morning (time to be confirmed), if your child is able to participate, please let me know. Thank you.

Sunday 9th June – Chiddingfold Village Fete

The nursery will once again be having a stall at the fete. It has not been finalised as to what we will be doing but possibly to include ‘Name The Toy’ and ‘Guess How Many Sweets in a Jar’ again like last year. Any ideas gratefully received.

We will obviously need help running any of the stalls on the above events, if you are able to help out please let me know.

**Nursery Diary Dates**

* May Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May

Nursery will be closed on this day.

* Election Day – Thursday 2nd May

Unfortunately the Village Hall is being taken over by the local election and so there will be no nursery. However, we are taking the opportunity and have organised staff training and a staff meeting on this day. I am sorry for any inconvenience caused by our closure but it really is out of our control. Obviously you will not be charged on the summer invoice for this date.

* Tuesday 21st May – Dinosaur and Fossil Dig Interactive Workshop

The workshop involves bringing in large sandboxes for the children to locate and look at fossils from the most iconic dinosaurs of the past.  We will also be visited by 'baby dinosaurs', and the children will meet animatronic Parasauralophus and other young dinosaurs. This is available for ALL nursery children regardless if they come on a Tuesday or not. More information will follow as we will organise two groups.

* Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

Half Term – nursery closed

* Nursery Leavers Alice Holt Trip – Tuesday 16th July

We will be taking the children who will be leaving nursery for Reception Class to Alice Holt for the day. We have booked the classroom there and will plan lots of forest adventures.

The nursery will be closed on this day.

Further details will be emailed to the parents of the ‘leavers’ in the next few weeks.

* Nursery End of Term Summer Show – Friday 19th July

The nursery children will be performing an end of term show on this day. The story is yet to be confirmed. Please note that this will not be a normal nursery day. The show will be followed by a ‘Leavers Presentation’ and a photo slide show of their last year at nursery. A very emotional day! More details will follow.

**Autumn Term 2024**

For those parents whose child will be returning in September 2024, if you would like to change/add days/sessions your child currently attends please could you email me as soon as possible. We have had lots of enquiries and new children starting and spaces are filling up quite quickly. At the moment we do have availability on all days but I would like to give our current children first choice of available sessions before they get filled. Thank you.

**Funding Declaration Forms**

If you have not already had a form for your child for this academic year I will be handing them out the first week of term for those children who are eligible for ‘Funded Early Education’. Please could you complete, sign and return to me as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Invoices**

I will be generating invoices during the first couple of weeks of term and will email them to individuals. However, please let me know if you would prefer to receive a paper copy. Please also remember that we do not accept cash payments, I am sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. We have set up a card/contactless payment device at the nursery to make it easier. You can also pay using bank transfers via online banking. Methods of payments with details will be on the bottom of the invoice.

**Now for the obligatory information………**

Please remember to bring your child with a named coat and a named bag with a change of clothes, and a named bottle of water. Also, if possible, a pair of named wellington boots. As it will be the Summer Term which may mean sunnier weather (fingers crossed) please can you put suncream on your child in the morning if the forecast is for hot weather. We will reapply during the course of the day.

As you also know we are a **NUT FREE** nursery so any food containing nuts is prohibited, this includes Pesto as it contains pine nuts.

Popcorn is also a prohibited item as it is deemed a choking hazard for early years children.

Grapes must be cut lengthwise.

We do not allow any sugary drinks at our setting. If your child will be staying for lunch please put your child’s name clearly on the lunch bag/box as sometimes we may have more than one of the same design. As before please adhere to our healthy eating ……………

Diagram

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me – [administrator@chiddingfoldvillagenursery.co.uk](mailto:administrator@chiddingfoldvillagenursery.co.uk)

We are back on Monday 15th April.

Thank you.

Leigh and The Nursery Team