



PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE CLUBS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER... We've had a great start to term, and the children have all been amazing, so have the parents!

Thank you to everyone that has been understanding and kept your child/ children off if they are a little under the weather. We have had a few children kept off with Chicken Pox and slight fevers but all is going well.

Term Dates... This term will end on **Friday 20th October 2023 at 3.00**. We will return on **Monday 30th October 2023**. We break up for Christmas on **Wednesday 20th of December at 12.00 noon** and return after the Christmas break on **January 9th 2024!**. We follow the term days and times of North Hinksey Primary school at the end of each full term (Christmas, Easter and Summer), we close at 12.00 noon.

Extra Sessions... Before Christmas I will be looking to see if we can accommodate any extra sessions for children on a permanent basis, starting from January 2024. We will then be able to establish if we can offer any more children a place from our waiting list. Some days are fuller than other's but we will see what we can do so if you are interested in further sessions please let me know before Friday 15th December. (Bear in mind Tuesdays are full!)

Illness... Please don't send your child if they are not well. Please don't give them Calpol and send them. If in doubt err on the side of caution. Staff becoming ill will make it difficult to remain open, as staffing is tight, also your children will not be getting anything out of coming to Preschool if they don't feel well enough to join in fully. We have had staff off already this term and it really adds to the pressure for all and what activities we can provide your children. If in doubt please check with us.

APPLYING FOR A SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2024... KEY DATES WHEN APPLYING FOR INFANT OR PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

To find out more please follow link <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions>.

Key dates for applications

Key dates	Event
1 November 2023	Applications open.
15 January 2024	Closing date for applications.
29 January 2024	Last date for confirmation of change of address.
16 April 2024	National Offer day: offer letters sent by second-class post where needed and emails sent to those who applied online.
30 April 2024	Closing date for late or amended applications Closing date to respond to offers made on 16 April and to join continued interests list
September 2024	Start of the school year.

Preschool Photos... One of our last year's children's Mum (Hannah) is a photographer and will be coming into preschool on Tuesday October 10th and Thursday October the 12th to take natural photos of preschoolers. If this is something you don't want please let me know. She will take a selection of photos of the children in play and also one or two more posed pictures, if children are interested and compliant! The children usually love it and re very interested!. You will then receive an email that enables you to purchase photos should you wish, but it is completely up to you if you decide not to.

How you can help us...Staff have asked me to share the following with you all!

1. Please ensure there are plenty but at least 3 sets of spare clothes at the beginning of the week. Include socks, pants, trousers, tops bottoms.
2. Please provide a spare pair of shoes/ pumps and wellies
3. Coats now the weather is getting colder
4. No open toe shoes, children trip over and can have serious toe injuries
5. Please don't send your child in dungarees, trouser suits all in ones
6. If your child is toilet training or trained please no drawstrings or buttons they can't un-do
7. No vests with poppers (we may have 10 children to have nappies changed in each session. Normal vests are much quicker.

8. If your child is NOT potty/toilet training please use nappies (we don't have to remove shoes, trousers to change a nappy (helps to speed things up) And cheaper!!
9. Obviously if toilet training use pull ups (of the right size and with clothes children can pull up and down by themselves.
10. LABEL everything!

I am sorry if this feels like the "clothing police" but it really enables things to run smoother and allow more time for everyone to be with the children.

Oral health... In 2021 we were accredited in Oral Health (which is part of our duty to promote through EYFS (2021) This December we are due to be re accredited and part of this requires us to complete a lunch box audit and share with you, as parents Oral health messages so watch this space. You do not to do anything different and I will share more information in due course. The first audit will be before October half-term and you will all receive individual feed-back!

Gate... The bane of my life! I am so sorry that our gate has not been working. The company which maintained and serviced our gate sent me a letter over the summer to say they would no longer keep the contract! A week later our gate stopped working, typically. We now have signed a new contract with a different security company and on October 16th they are replacing the motor and we should have our automated gate back at a great cost! (£ thousands!!) When it is working it is *really important* that no one pushes it or touches the safety strips. Please don't allow your children to climb on it either. Lets hope once it has been fixed it will work for a good time!

Memory books... We are hoping to send these home October half term so you can see how your child is getting on.. please remember to bring them back after half term.

If you have any concerns, questions or feedback please just email me nhps.manager1@gmail.com