



November 2016 Newsletter

PLEASE NOTE - Lollypop Patrol

There will be no afternoon Lollypop Patrol the w/c 31 October.

Parents Evening - Wednesday 16 November

Please keep the date free in your diaries - Shirley will contact you re appointments nearer the time.

Fundraising

For the fifth year we have not received any increase from KCC for the Early Years Education Funding. The amount of money received from KCC is £4.10 per child per hour up to 15 hours per week. As you will appreciate this is a fraction of normal babysitting costs. We, however, provide your child with an education through having qualified staff including two qualified teachers. On top of our rent and the usual utility bills etc this year we have also had to incorporate the National Living Wage and Pension Auto-Enrolment. As you are aware all fundraising monies are ploughed back into the Pre-School to purchase resources for the children. This Christmas we shall be fundraising with calendars, raffle, stocking fillers, Father Christmas letters and other ideas in the foyer. In order to maintain the high standards that we pride ourselves on, we shall be holding many fundraising events throughout the year which we hope you will support. Thank you,

Wellie Throw - w/c 31 October

We shall be holding a Sponsored Wellie Throw the week commencing Monday 31 October. The child that throws the wellie the furthest in both the Nursery and the Lions Class will receive a new pair of wellies. Forms will be sent home shortly and it would be appreciated if these could be returned as soon as possible. To make giving your donations easier please use the following link: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.make-a-donation>

Fundraising - Playdough and Chutney!

We shall be selling festive bags of playdough ingredients (£3). These make ideal stocking fillers for children. We shall also be selling jars of homemade Chutney at £2 each.

Personalised Letters from Father Christmas

There is still time to organise a letter from Father Christmas for your child. Letters cost £5 each and will be posted home to your child/children in early December. Please ask a member of staff for a form.

Education for Sustainable Development:

Taking Play More Seriously

We are fortunate in having the opportunity to work with Hon. Professor John Siraj-Blatchford an Education Researcher and Lynnette Brock from SchemaPlay. They are looking at developing our practice and resources for children's learning in education for sustainable development and free flow play. From this training materials and publications will be created for use in the education profession. They will be visiting every two weeks following the progress of two children, over a six month period. Parents of those children who will be involved have already been contacted.

In this regard, they would like to know if any parent/carer belongs to any Worldwide Wildlife Organisation, if so please let Sian or Zena know.

Kent County Council believe that this is a significant opportunity to lead the way in education for sustainability. As one of only five Pre-Schools chosen in Kent, we are extremely proud that we have been given this opportunity to help with this research.

Lions Christmas Nativity - Friday 9 December

The Lions Nativity Play will take place at 9.15 a.m. at All Saints Church, Brenchley. We shall be handing out roles to all those children in the Lions Class over the next few weeks. All Lions children are included irrespective of whether they attend the Friday session

Nativity CD

In order to help your child learn the songs for the Nativity we have copies of our Nativity CD on sale at £2.00 each.

There will be NO Nursery or Lions Sessions on Friday 9 December

Calendars 2017

This year's Calendars will be going on sale w/c 28 November. However, if you would like yours earlier in order to catch overseas posting dates, please let us know.

Sound of the Week (Lions)

We shall be focussing on only **ONE** letter from the alphabet per week so from the w/c 31 October the letter will be H and the following week I and so on. Please only bring in items for Show & Tell that are connected with Sound of the Week. This is for you as parents to be involved in helping your child's emerging phonetic sounds.

Clothing and Footwear Code

Please ensure that all items of clothing including shoes are named. We shall be going out into the garden every day so please ensure your child has a jumper/coat to wear and that wellie boots should be clean and free of mud.

Lunchboxes

Following FSA guidelines we will remove any out of date items that we find in your child's lunchbox as failure to do so could result in the Pre-School being liable for a hefty fine.

As we have several children at Pre-School with nut allergies, please **DO NOT** give your child any nuts or nut based products in their lunchboxes. To prevent choking incidents please ensure that any grapes, tomatoes or soft fruit i.e. cherries are cut into **quarters** and that any stones have been removed. As these items can be a **CHOKING HAZARD**.

Planning/Useful Information

Please check out the notice boards in the Foyer for our daily activities.

Book Bags

Could we please ask parents not to place important items i.e., cheques, forms, letters etc in their child's book bags but to hand them to a member of staff. Due to the number of children, especially in the Lions Class, it is not always possible to check bags on a daily basis.

Collection Times

Could we please remind parents/carers that our collection times are **12 noon and 3.30 p.m.** We have in the past had several occasions where a child has not been collected until 3.50 p.m. which obviously causes

problems with safety/staffing issues. So please collect your child prior to collecting any older siblings from Primary School. Thank you.

Pre-School Clothing

If we send your child home in any of our spare Pre-School clothing please could you ensure it is returned as soon as possible. Thank you.

Communication

If your child is unable to attend their session due to sickness, holidays, etc could you please report this to the Pre-School by **telephone (01892 724261) asap and not** via Facebook. Thank you.

If someone else has to collect your child, even if they are on our emergency contact sheet, please telephone us on the day. Alternatively if you know when you drop your child off in the morning please inform a member of staff and write who will be collecting your child either on the board (Lions Class) or book (Nursery). Please check your child's red Book Bag regularly for any communication we may be sending home. Any return correspondence needs to be handed to Shirley or a member of staff.

Second Hand Pre-School Uniform Fundraiser

If you have any Pre-School uniform which is clean and in good condition which you no longer require please consider donating it to the Pre-School to sell on. Thank you.

Term Dates 2016/2017

Term 1: Tues 6 Sept - **Thurs 20 Oct**

Term 2: Mon 31 Oct - Tues 20 Dec

Term 3: Thurs 5 Jan - **Thurs 9 Feb**

Term 4: **Tues 21 Feb** - Fri 31 Mar

Term 5: Tues 18 Apr - Fri 26 May

Term 6: Mon 5 Jun - Thurs 20 July

Dates to Note

Welly Throw w/c 31 Oct

Parents Evening Wednesday 16 Nov

Lions Nativity Fri 9 Dec 9.15 a.m.

(Please note there will be no Nursery Class nor Lions pm session today)

Christmas Party Tues 20 Dec 9.00 a.m.

(Please note there will be no Lions pm session)

Leavers Concert Fri 21 July 9.15 a.m.

(Please note there will be no Lions pm session)

Nappies and Wipes

If your child is in nappies could we please ask that you remember to put wipes in their book bag as well as the nappies. Thank you.

Mobile Phones

Following safeguarding policies, we would like to remind parents that the use of Mobile Phones is strictly prohibited once inside the Pre-School building.



Facebook Please do follow us on Facebook - Brenchley Pre-School Group. You can also find us on Twitter. Both these sites will keep you up to date on the happenings at Pre-School.

Private Group on Facebook

Use of the private group should only be used as a means of communicating **Pre-School Information** between parents only. Please note that the Staff should in no way be tagged into posts and that responses should not be expected outside school hours except in urgent cases. Thank you.

Dogs at Pre-School

As several of our children are frightened of dogs in close proximity, could you please consider leaving your dog at home/in the car when dropping off/collecting your child. Thank you.

Kent Children and Families Information Service

Kent CFIS provides support and advice on help with childcare and costs. An Early Education fact sheet is available on the Kent County Council Website Kentcfis@kent.gov.uk.

General Car Parking

Please note that parking is NOT permitted in the Brenchley Road (opposite the Brenchley Garage) during school hours. Parents are advised to use the car parks adjacent to the swing park or the Memorial Hall. Please also be aware that occasionally events take place at the Primary School which can result in more congestion so please leave enough time to collect/drop off your child. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO REMIND PARENTS THAT THE ROAD ADJACENT TO THE PRE-SCHOOL IS A PRIVATE ROAD AND AS SUCH SHOULD NOT BE USED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Nametags4U

Brenchley Pre-School has been linked for several years with www.nametags4u.co.uk. When ordering online use the promotion code BRENCH5 and you will receive a 5% parent discount. Another 15% will be donated to the Pre-School.

Yellow Moon

We are registered with the raft company Yellow Moon www.yellowmoon.org.uk. By quoting Code SBR1892 when ordering the Pre-School will receive a small percentage of any sale.

School Link by the Scholastic Book Club

School Link is an exciting scheme brought to you by the Scholastic Book Club. Not only do they offer up to 85% off publishers' prices but you can also earn free books for the Pre-School. They are not a book club, you can order what you want, when you want with no further obligation. They offer first picture books and fiction, curriculum based learning and revision titles and the very best books for grown ups too. Please check out their website www.schoollink.co.uk and when ordering quote Brenchley Pre-School.

Shopping on-line

Please remember that Brenchley Pre-School has signed up with School Fundraising.com. For those of you who regularly shop on-line please go to our personalised website on www.schoolfundraising.org.uk/brenchley-Pre-school where you will not pay any more of your items but the Pre-School will benefit with a percentage of your total spend. Many top name brands and shops available, i.e., M & S, Next, etc.