

Activities for this term

Over the previous year, we have enjoyed some well attended activity mornings. We are planning to have an

Autumn Activity morning on October 23rd 2019

(9.15 -11am). There will be crafts, treasure hunts and opportunities for talking with other parents/ grandparents over a cup of tea or coffee. As before, you are more than welcome to join us, even if your child is not in session. We always conclude these mornings with a fun time of singing.

Please try to make this morning as I am sure that it will be very special. As it is the time of Harvest it would be wonderful if we, as a preschool, could make a donation to the church's food bank. Further details to follow.

Christmas celebrations.

Although this is 'far into the future!!' we know that many of you may well want to know the dates of our Pre-school celebrations:

Christmas Party: Friday 6th December 2019 (1-3pm)

Christmas Activity morning: Wednesday 11th December 2019 (9.15-11am)

Christmas Nativity and 'Santa': Friday 20th December in the church at 2pm

Information will be sent to you closer to the time

INSET days are Monday 6th January; Friday 3rd April; Thursday 7th May (Friday 8th May is now a bank holiday); Tuesday 22nd July



Testwood Baptist Church Pre-school

September 2019



Firstly, we want to thank you for your many good wishes at the end of the summer term.

We love our preschool and are so happy that you are so supportive of it as well.

We would also like to welcome new children who have joined us – Matthew, Mattie, Isla, Elmer, Elisha, Erin, Ava, Olivia, Shania and Louis. They have all settled in very well and we are sure that they will make new friends and enjoy their time at preschool with us.

We also welcome two new members of staff– **Sandra Gaunt** and **June Russell** (lunchtime helper). We are sure they will both be very happy here.

Zog theme



We have begun our theme of Zog by changing the role play area into a baby hospital. The children have loved using their imagination to take on a role and care for their friends and the 'babies'.

'Zog and the Flying Doctors' is a wonderful Julia Donaldson story and we will be seeing if we can sequence the story. When you are reading stories please talk to your child about the characters, what could happen next and why things happen. This understanding of the structure of stories will foster lots of early reading skills.

Improvements to the garden

We have made some great improvements to the Mud Kitchen and incorporated a gravel digging area. They have loved it and the development of problem skills and teamwork have been excellent to see.



Mini Music Makers (every Thursday morning)

One of our previous parents – Hayley, is now doing Music Makers with the children. They are taught (in small groups) how to play different musical instruments including ukulele, glockenspiel and the recorder. The children love experimenting with their sounds and enjoy this time. We always finish the session with a joyous singing time with Hayley accompanying our singing with her skilful playing.



Playing outside.

As a preschool, we acknowledge the importance of children playing outside in all weathers. The research is so clear that children benefit so much from this.

Please can we ask that you provide a named pair of wellies for your child to wear and also (if possible) an all in one waterproof suit. It makes it so much easier for staff and children if they have appropriate clothing at all times.

Wearing slippers

As the weather gets more Autumnal and shoes begin to get wet and muddy, many of the children like to take off their shoes when they are playing inside. If they would like to, they can bring in their named slippers to wear so that they feel more comfortable. The staff may well bring theirs in too!

Labelling

Please label everything which your child brings to preschool. We have some children with allergies. **It is vital that we keep them safe at all times.** We have noticed that a lot of water bottles are not labelled. This could cause us a real problem if we do not know who the water bottle belongs to as it could contain something which could harm another child.

Snack time

As some of you may be aware, we are grateful for donations of snack items. This can include savoury items such as breadsticks, crackers, fresh crusty bread or fresh fruit.



Facebook group

Please look out in the next week for a letter about a pre-school Facebook group. This will be purely for sharing information.