

July 2020

Dear All,

If somebody had told me in January that the rest of the academic year would be what we have all faced I don't think I would have believed them! Though for me, this has been a lovely start in getting to know a small group of our children ready for their new chapter after the Summer break and getting to know the team. I am very excited to seeing new and old faces when we are **ALL** back in September.

We have been very busy making sure the indoor and outdoor environments are as bright, attractive and meaningful for a happy return and thanks to Mrs Tobias and Mrs Harvey in particular for this work.

I would like to thank all the team in their hard work and efforts with overcoming the more traditional induction/getting to know you sessions and adopting 'Zoom' and embracing the world of technology. Some with more challenges than others but the effort and dedication from the team was clear and I thank them all for reaching out and aiming to make the children's learning and giving them a little taste of normality. Thank you also to Mrs Watson and Mrs Tobias for pulling together two evenings of Induction training and families braving the weather to come and listen to how we shall be greeting our new recruits in September.

Though, as you will get to know me, I am a very positive person and have a very 'we can get through anything with great communication' I don't (sadly) envisage waking up on the 31st August and Coronavirus would have vanished and being able to email you the good news! We have continual changes from Government and Local Authority on how we need to work and modify those key changes to our approach and I have gone into more detail at how we shall and need to move forward in September and beyond and I am asking for your full support on this to make it smooth for everyone concerned.

Our door is always open should you have any queries or concerns. Please feel free to speak to either myself, Mrs Lewis (Administrator and Office wizard)



finalised)

September:

Autumn Term starts:
2nd September 2020 9am
Meet the New Manager TBA
AGM - 24th September (*time to be*

Also, Mrs Tobias (Deputy Manager & Butterfly Lead) and of course your key person, who is available for you to talk to on a regular basis concerning your child's development and progress. If you need a longer chat a diary appointment can be made, just let us know.

For now, I wish you all a very safe, fun and relaxing Summer holiday and look forward to welcoming and getting to know you all in September.

Chris

Chris Roblett
Manager

We Need You!

We need parents willing to become Trustees, or who would like help support us for the coming year, please email any interest to Mrs Lewis at admin@tilehousepreschoolandnursery.org.uk Do come along to our AGM on 24th September!

Helen Watson

I can't but not pay a thank you and a fond farewell not to only our Butterfly and Caterpillar children spreading their wings and off to School but to our Manager Helen. Helen has worked tirelessly over the years and we bid her a fond farewell at the end of this term as she moves onto new adventures and may even get some leisure time! Though she will be back in the capacity of a Trustee from September supporting the continued success of Tilehouse Street. We look forward to working with Helen within this capacity and I know you would wish her the very best and happiness. Thank you for everything Helen!

Coronavirus - September Update

I think it is important to highlight how we need to move forward. We shall be having the following in place;

- ✓ A one way system - you shall see clear signs and markers outside the nursery please do keep your distance and the door shall be opened by myself or Mrs Tobias to greet you and take key messages that we can pass onto your key person. You will then escort your child to the outside of their rooms and a member of staff will be there with a big smile and take your child from you. Then please leave the marked exit located outside the Butterfly room as quickly as possible to allow the next parent to drop their child off.
- ✓ There will be labelled coat pegs ready for your child outside to hang their coats and bags and boxes to place their lunch boxes in (if they are booked in for lunch club)
- ✓ We shall provide snack as previously
- ✓ Please provide a named water bottle
- ✓ Enjoying frequent hand washing and the fun activities around this
- ✓ The staff have an abundance of personal protective equipment (PPE) when carrying out care routines and this is in place.
- ✓ If your child does become unwell during the day we shall (as normal procedure) inform you but would like pick up of your child as soon as humanly possible.

Above all! **It shall and will be okay.** You need to trust yourselves, your child(ren) and above all the team to be able to care and support your child and there will be updates on Family to reassure you. I am always happy to take telephone calls/emails and put your mind at ease.

Any further practical updates then I shall of course notify you.

COMMUNICATION

Every week you shall get a 'Weekly Roundup' Newsletter sent to you via Family which will stop such long newsletters like this! It will have fun activities within our week, key messages, celebrations and welcomes - I promise to keep it to one page!

The team will work hard on updating Family with photographs and observations in the weeks we are settling in.

Borrowing Library

As from September in the corridor you can pick up a story book for you to read and enjoy with your child - please don't forget to sign the book out then in! This will keep Mr Roblett and Mrs Tobias very happy!

Uniform

Although not compulsory our uniform is available to all children attending Tilehouse Street Pre-School and Nursery and gives them a sense of belonging. It can also help with the "what can I wear today" dilemma each morning.

We have both T-Shirts and Sweatshirts available in ages 3-4 and 4-5. Please email Mrs Lewis for further information on this including prices.

Labelling

Please remember to name your child's bag and lunch box (on the outside), also coats, jumpers, footwear and any treasure toys.

Lunch Club

Can we please remind parents that we are strictly a no-nut setting and to ensure that no nut products are contained within your child's lunch box.

At pre-school and nursery, we very much encourage a healthy lunch, and for this reason, we would ask that sweets and chocolate bars are not included.

If you are providing grapes, cherries, blueberries etc we would kindly ask that these be sliced lengthways to reduce the risk of choking.

If you wish to be emailed some guidance on what makes a healthy choice lunch please let me know.

Summer Homework!

We shall be creating individual laminated photo books for your child and would very much like and need photos of important people and pets, toys in their lives - this really helps settling in as it is a pleasant reminder of home but also a lovely addition to our cosy Book Corners. Thank you!

Adventure Ted

The Butterfly children shall be set the task in September of naming our new family member. 'Adventure' Ted is our teddy bear who lives with us at Pre-School and Nursery. The children take it in turns to take him home with them after a session and he spends an evening or two with their family. He has his own passport, suitcase, blanket for night time and very much enjoys bedtime stories.

'Adventure' Ted shall be spending his Summer with Mr Roblett - watch out for the photos!



WOW Moments!

We like to celebrate with you and the group, your child's achievements from home, anything from 'eating all their dinner' to 'swimming without armbands'. You will find some 'WOW' Moment forms in a basket on the table outside the preschool room. Once you have completed a 'WOW' moment form please return to your key person and we can share it with your child and the rest of the group that day. Sharing these 'WOW moments' at circle time will help support your child's confidence and self-esteem and show them that we value their achievements.

Spare Clothes

Please do bring along a labelled back pack (no plastic bags please) for your child with enough spare clothes and importantly underwear!

If you do have any underwear and socks - especially boys that you no longer need please do bring them in and we would be happy to have.

family

We use an online system for recording your child's development. You should have all received a login, but if you haven't please let our Administrator Mrs Lewis know and we will re-send it. You are welcome to add any activities yourself using the app and this is a great way for us to get to know your child better.

And finally,



Enjoy the Summer break from the everyone at Tilehouse Street!