**SUMMER END OF TERM NEWSLETTER**

** This half term…**

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Our topics of ‘Beside the seaside’ and ‘On the farm’ have been really interesting and rewarding for the children. It was lovely to hear about the children’s own visits to the beach and what they have seen. We explored shells, sand, sea creatures, boats, pirates and water. We made some beautiful sandy beach pictures and had great fun exploring what pirates get up to during roleplay and treasure hunts. Our farm topic was obviously topped off with our brilliant trip to Bocketts Farm but before then we learnt about all aspects of the farm with various activities like cow milking, building animal habitats, singing farm themed songs and learning about where some of our food and drink comes from.



**Bocketts Farm Trip**

What a fantastic day we had! The weather was very kind to us and everyone had so much fun. We saw lots of animals including pigs, cows, sheep, lambs, rabbits, chickens, horses, guinea pigs, goats and llamas. The children enjoyed the brilliant play areas and got very hot and sweaty after jumping on the bouncy pillows! Thank you again to our lovely volunteers.

**** **Family photos**

At Pre-School we have a ‘Pre-School Family Album’ which has a page for each child to add pictures of their families. This is great for us to get to know them, for settling them and for engaging them in conversation. It would be great for more children to get the opportunity to add to the album so, if you haven’t already, please either send in some printed photos of your child, their family, close friends and pets or email some to us at hello@newdigatepreschool.co.uk and we will print them off.

** .…****Next half term**

Our topic after the summer break will be ‘All about me’. This will help us get to know our new children and find out some new things about our current children. We will explore a range of themes including:

* Family members
* Hair colour, eye colour
* Age/birthdays
* Pets
* Favourite toys/things to do
* Special skills/hobbies

 **Staff in September**

We would like to thank Miss Maitland for stepping in for the Summer term and wish her well at her new job. We are really pleased to tell you that after 5 terms as a 1:1 teacher, Miss Miles will be continuing at Newdigate Pre-School as a full time member of the team. She will have her own group of key children and if your child is changing key person in September Jo will send you a message to confirm this before we return in September.

** New EYFS**

From September we will be following the new statutory framework (The EYFS). There are significant changes to how we are expected to teach and assess children to achieve the best outcomes. The main change you will notice will be less written assessments and observations. This is to allow for more time spent actually with the children and not writing notes, taking pictures and summarising their achievements by way of frequent written accounts. You will notice changes to the frequency of observations but we plan to do more detailed reports and targets for future progression at regular intervals. All staff are having training on the new curriculum and approach before we start back on 6th September.

**** **Breakfast club**

Miss Stanford and Miss Johnson run the breakfast club everyday from 8am to 9am. It costs £5 per day and is for our 3- and 4-year olds. Bookings must be made for each half term in advance. In order to request a space, parents will need to message the manager (Joanne Johnson) on the Famly app, requesting the days you require, and she will reply to confirm whether there is a space available for your child. Due to the required adult to child ratios, places are limited.

 **Pre-School books and bookbags**

Please can you have a look at home for any of our books and return bookbags if your child is leaving pre-school for school. Thank you!

**** **Pre-School fees and changes in September**

A reminder that invoices are sent out half-termly. Fees will need to be paid in full by the end of each half term to ensure that your child retains their place for the next half term. In order to meet ever increasing costs we will be increasing all fees that are not funded to £21 per session for 2 years olds and £19.50 per session for children 3 years old and over. This will start from September 2021.

**ALL FEES MUST BE PAID IN FULL BY 3PM ON FRIDAY 16TH JULY TO RETAIN YOUR CHILD’S PLACE.**

**** **Nappies**

As we have such a large number of children in nappies currently, it is quite a considerable expense for the Pre-School to cover. It would be much appreciated if those families with children in nappies could contribute a pack of nappies and wipes as and when you are able to. The sizes we use are 4, 5, 6 and 7. This will mean that we can spend any remaining funds we have on resources for the children.

** Swimming** **pool hire**

The Newdigate Pre-School pool is available to hire for one hour sessions over the summer. The details of how to book are here: [www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofnewdigateschool](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofnewdigateschool)

 ** Pre-School leavers 2021**

Please keep an eye on your emails for your child’s complete learning journey. We will also be sending this to their new schools. We have been filming a leavers song, graduation ceremony and mini sports day that we will be sending to you as and when they are filmed. These are such lovely memories to keep forever of their time at Pre-School. We have loved teaching and caring for each and every one of your children and wish them all the best of luck at their new adventure at ‘big school’.

** Pre-Loved toys, books and dressing up**

If you happen to be having a clear out over the summer holidays and have any good quality toys, books and dressing up clothes then please send us a message to see if we can make use of it as we always in need of new resources. Thank you!

** Key dates for your diary**

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| End of term  | Tuesday 20th July @ 3pm |
| Pre-School Inset days  | Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd September |
| Start of Autumn Term | Monday 6th September @ 9am |
| Half term | Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October |
| End of term | Friday 17th December @ 3pm |
| Pre-School Inset day | Thursday 6th January  |
| Back to Pre-School | Friday 7th January 2022 @ 9am |
| Half term  | Monday 14th February to Friday 18th February |
| Back to Pre-School | Monday 21st February @ 9am |
| End of term | Friday 1st April @ 3pm |
| Back to Pre-School  | Tuesday 19th April @ 9am |
| Half term  | Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June |
| Back to Pre-School | Monday 6th June @ 9am |
| End of term  | Friday 22nd July @ 3pm |

