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**SPRING HALF TERM NEWSLETTER**

**This half term…**

Since coming back after the Christmas break, the children have really enjoyed our ‘People who help us’ topic. We have observed some amazingly imaginative roleplays and had some very informative discussions about different occupations, their roles and responsibilities, and how they assist us all. The children have been expressing their admiration for the people who help us, with some of the children describing them as “superheroes”. The activities have included individual collage people, making posters, putting out pretend fires, cooking healthy pizzas and building our own rescue vehicles out of junk modelling materials.

We have welcomed a number of new children this term, and a new member of staff – Miss Miles (Sophie). The pre-existing children have been incredibly kind and welcoming and helped to teach them the Pre-School rules and daily routines.

The children have been really excited to join in with ‘show and tell’ so we will continue to incorporate this into our daily routine. The children can talk about and show anything of interest to them, and we have seen this help some of our less confident children really shine.

**…Next half term**

Our topic after the half term break will be ‘Spring’. We are really excited to start spending even more time outside now that the weather is brightening up. We will be encouraging the children to explore the outdoor environment and investigate the changes that occur as we head towards Spring and Summer. The planned activities will revolve around growth, new life and changes in the environment. We will do some planting and taking care of plants, fruits and vegetables too. As we head towards the end of term, we will have fun with some Easter themed activities.

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 **\*\*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\*\***

Please remember that due to the dates allocated by Surrey County Council for funding during the Spring term, Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st March are NOT covered by funding. If your child claims for 15 hours, 30 hours or FEET funding and usually attends on a Monday or Tuesday, can you please let us know if they will be attending their usual sessions or not. If they will be attending these sessions as usual you will be invoiced for the standard session rate.



The children have really impressed us with their engagement and excitement during their phonics sessions. Miss Stanford has been teaching the children the sounds that the letters make, using fun rhymes to help them remember them and also encouraging the children to learn how to write the letters. Our interactive whiteboard has been a fantastic resource for this. We use the ‘Read, Write, Inc’ phonics system if you would like to look into this resource to practise at home, here is the link:

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/programmes/phonics/>.

**Nursery Rhyme of the week**

After half term, we will be learning a new nursery rhyme every week. We will send the name of the nursery rhyme and the words home via the Famly app so you can practise at home! The benefits of nursery rhymes include learning and developing:

* new words
* how to develop non-verbal communication skills
* early maths skills
* early literacy skills
* how words are formed
* social skills
* listening and attention skills
* rhythm and rhyme
* physical skills
* cognitive skills

**Key dates for your diary**

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| Back to Pre-School  | Mon 24 February 9am |
| Easter Egg Hunt | Fri 3 April after Pre-School – All children welcome |
| Easter Holidays | Mon 6 April – Fri 17 Apr |
| Back to Pre-School | Mon 20 April 9am |
| Whole Pre-School photograph  | Tue 5 May 11:30am  |
| Half term | Mon 25 – Fri 29 May |
| Back to Pre-School | Mon 1 June 9am  |
| End of Summer Term | Tues 21 July 3pm |