**CHERITON BISHOP PRE-SCHOOL**

**NEWSLETTER 1st HALF AUTUMN TERM 2021**

**Welcome back!** - Hope you have all had a great summer holidays despite the current situation! Now back to some sort of reality which we will endeavour to make as safe and normal as possible for all.

Our topic for this half term is – **‘Ourselves.’** However, our main focus will be settling the children into the new Preschool routine, ensuring that they are both happy and confident when left with us. After the first couple of settling-in weeks we will be taking opportunities to explore our senses, talk about our emotions, learn how we are all unique and special, and as always, encourage independence. Another main focus will be healthy eating and dental hygiene. We will be following the pace of the children so watch out for the weekly parent information emails which will include the daily session plans.

**Session times reminder** – Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs; drop-off between 8.45\* - 9am, pick-up 3.15pm. \*Please do not arrive any earlier than 8.45am as staff will still be setting up activities for the day.

Before lunch pick up – 11.30 am. After lunch pick-up/drop-off – 12.45pm.

**School dinners** – **Please note we are a nut free school!** Please do not send your child in with anything containing nuts. We will continue to offer the option of ordering a cooked school dinner for your child. Orders need to be paid for online by the end of Thursday evening for the following week. School dinners are £2.50 per day.

**Child registration forms –** please ensure that your child’s details; contact numbers, address etc are kept up to date. Please see Christine to check and update. \*Please also complete your child’s ‘All about me’ section on their Tapestry account. If you are having problems accessing this, we can let you have a paper copy to complete.

**’Forest school’ type activities** – We will continue to visit the scout field on Tuesdays mornings, weather permitting, starting from Tuesday 14th September. We will still go if showers are forecast, but not in heavy rain. We have a limited supply of waterproofs and wellies, but if your child could keep their own in their named bag that would be really helpful.

**What your child needs to bring each day –** each child will ideally have a change of clothes in a named bag, which can be left hung on their named peg. If staying for lunch they will need their own named, healthy packed lunch with a named drinks bottle. Coats for each session or possibly hats/sun cream if hot – who knows what the weather might be like! Basically, everything that comes into Preschool needs to be named please!

**Grapes** – We ask that all grapes are cut in half to avoid the hazard of choking. The same applies to small tomatoes and large blueberries.

**‘Show and tell’** – We will continue to have ‘show and tell with a difference’ during our morning circle times for all children. For the time being we ask that your child does not bring in any toys from home. Alternatively, you could add a photo of your child’s special toy on to Tapestry. Or better still, add a video of something that they would like to share with us. Last term we found that this system worked really well, with the children really enjoying sharing their Tapestry posts.

**School breakfast club** – Pre-school children are able to attend the school’s breakfast club, which runs from 7.30 – 8.45am. Please book your place & pay online; at the latest book the week before so that school can ensure the staffing ratio is correct. The charge is £3.50, to include a healthy breakfast.

**Snack donations** – This is a request for snacks for the next half term – for those of you who aren’t aware, this has replaced the 50p a day charge so definitely a cheaper option for all! Basically, we have fresh fruit and veg each day but would like to offer the children a cracker, dried fruit &/or cheese to go with it, especially important for the afternoon snacks when they need refuelling! Thanks very much for your support with this. (One packet of crackers or piece of cheese from each family will see us through this half term.)

**Family photo display** – Please send in a photo of your family, home, pet or all for display on our ‘Family’ board. This is always really popular with the children and great for discussion.

**\*If you have any suggestions, comments or concerns regarding Preschool please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.**

**Contact numbers -** Pre-school landline – 24714 (Pre-school hours only)

Christine – 07977777318

\*If your child isn’t coming in for whatever reason, please let us know before 9am. If we don’t hear from you a member of staff will be making contact just so that our register can be completed correctly.