

Lydlynch Preschool

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Registered charity number: 1111596

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year!!!! Where has the time gone? It was only March five minutes ago! We hope that all of the children and their families had a lovely Christmas despite the differences that we have had to face this year.

On behalf of the team at Lydlynch Pre-School we would like to extend a very warm welcome to all the new families that have joined us following the Christmas break and welcome back everyone else.

This newsletter aims to provide you with all the information that you will need for the year ahead.

Kind Regards,

The Pre-School Team



Closure / Inset Dates

February 13th-21st

Half Term

March 19th

Inset Day

April 2nd – 18th

Easter Holidays

May 3rd

Bank Holiday

May 31st – June 8th

Half Term

July 23rd

Pre-School closed for leavers party - TBC

July 24th

Summer holiday starts



Team News

The whole team would like to say 'Thank You' for all our Christmas gifts that we received this year. We were unable to have our usual team Christmas celebration, where we exchange our secret Santa gifts, however we spent time together after work enjoying the wonderful treats that we had received from everyone. Thank you all for your generosity and kindness.

Sadly, we have to announce that Natasha has decided that she will not be returning to the pre-school following her maternity leave. On a more positive note Layla has been offered the full-time position and she has accepted the position.

We are also happy to announce that Kayleigh welcomed a baby boy to her family during the Christmas break. Mummy and baby are all doing well.

Questionnaire

Thank you all for taking the time to complete our questionnaire on Survey Monkey, we had a much more positive response this year. We have attached the feedback to this newsletter.

COVID-19

Following the news that the country is in another lockdown, we would like to confirm that the pre-school is remaining open as usual. The management team continue to keep updated daily by the new guidance and will inform parents/carers as soon as we are made aware of any changes. Please ensure that you keep us up to date with your contact details.

Thank you to everyone for following the Government guidelines and for wearing your masks when dropping off and collecting your children during this lockdown period. It has been fun seeing all of the different designs.

To reduce congestion and encourage social distancing at the end of the day the pre-school will be opening the gates at 3:00 for parents / carers to collect their children. Please can we remind parents / carers that the pre-school finishes at 3:15 and children need to be collected by this time. The team are required to carry out an intense cleaning routine at the end of the day which is why it is important for children to be collected on time. Should an issue arise that means that you are unable to collect on time please can you contact the pre-school to make the team aware.

If your child has any of the following symptoms, please keep them home, book a COVID-19 test and inform us of the result as soon as possible.

- High temperature
- Persistent cough
- Loss of taste or smell

As we are keeping the pre-school ventilated please ensure that the children have plenty of warm clothes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We have not planned any stay and play events due to the current pandemic. We are looking into possible socially distanced events that we may be able to organise when the lockdown is lifted at the next team meeting.

We are hoping to organise a pre-school trip in June.

We would like to organise a sponsored walk for the children themed around 'We're going on a bear hunt.' This will be after the Christmas period so watch this space.

In July the pre-school will have been open for 16 years. To celebrate we would like to have a large 'Sweet sixteen' birthday party to celebrate if we can.

We will be having a leavers party for all of the children who are off to 'big' school in July. This has been provisionally booked for Friday 23rd July 2021

Parking

Please may we ask you to park considerately and not block resident's driveways. We have received complaints from residents regarding blocked access to properties, so we ask you to bear this in mind when you are parking outside the school.

If you choose to park in the surrounding streets, please park sensibly and safely by:

- Not parking on the pavements
- Not blocking driveways
- Not mounting grass verges or parking on open spaces
- Not obstructing access, especially for delivery and emergency vehicles

The Police regularly patrol the local area and will issue fixed penalty tickets to vehicles if they are repeatedly found to be obstructing the pavements or driveways.

Parent and Carers are also welcome to park at Totton & Eling Cricket Club before and after school to keep Lydlynch Road a little bit clearer and safer.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Important Information

Please ensure all bags, lunchboxes, water bottles, clothes, hats, sun creams and toys are **NAMED** to avoid lost property. If one of your child's belongings is misplaced, please look in the lost property box, located on the lunch trolley at drop off and pick up time.

If your child is likely to be absent, please inform us by 9am (where possible) by phoning the pre-school.

It is vital that you notify a member of staff when someone else will be collecting your child. Please ensure that the collecting adult has the password that was provided at registration. We will not be able to let your child leave the premises if the proper procedure is not adhered to. Please could we also remind parents/carers that anyone collecting children must be over 18 years of age.

The pre-school encourages healthy eating and therefore would ask that your child's lunch box does not contain fizzy drinks, chocolate, sweets etc. Due to allergies, the pre-school is a nut free zone so please ensure that there are **no products that contain nuts** in your child's lunchbox. Please ensure that grapes and cocktail sausages are cut in half to minimise the risk of choking.

Due to the unpredictability of our weather, please make sure that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing, such as a jacket, wellington boots, hat and sun cream etc. Please note that if your child does not have appropriate outdoor clothing or protection they may be unable to access the outdoor areas.

Fundraising

We hope that the children enjoyed their Christmas presents from the pre-school and receiving their letters from Father Christmas.

The Father Christmas letters raised £72.50

The team were so grateful to receive so many kind donations towards the Christmas raffle and we are happy to announce that we have raised £101 towards our fundraising pot.

The Christmas cards that the children very artistically designed raised £40.70

Photographs – Due to unexpected events we had to postpone taking the children's photographs until the New Year. We will be doing this within the next month, if you would like your child to wear a specific outfit for the pictures please can you bring it in to pre-school in a labelled bag. Alternatively, we will be asking the children to wear an item of the pre-school uniform. Any children who have not returned to pre-school during the lockdown will have their pictures taken when they return.

Upon review of our accident book we have found that a lot of our accidents happen on the slope and steps in to pre-school. We have therefore been in discussions about refurbishing our playground, extending our canopy to offer more shelter during wet play and shade during summer, introduce a new seating/cosy area for the children and making our ramp/stairs safer.

We would like to say a big 'Thank You' to all parents and carers for their continued support during our fundraising events and for donating their time in supporting the Lydlynch Team. Your continued support helps us to provide the children with Christmas presents and birthday cards as well as improving the setting for the children. If you are interested in getting involved with the fundraising team or have any new ideas, please contact sam@lydlynchpreschool.co.uk