

April 2021

Welcome back after the Spring Break – at least we managed to see some sunshine in the end! It is hard to believe that we now have just 2 half-terms left before we finish for Summer and say goodbye to so many of your children. I hope that those of you who took tadpoles home have enjoyed looking after them and your children have enjoyed watching them to see if the legs have started growing yet! Don't forget to send us some pictures so we can share them with the rest of the children. This term we will be looking after caterpillars and watching them change into butterflies before we release them.

You will by now, have found out the school place allocated to your child. Thank you to those of you who have confirmed this to me already. Can I please ask you to let me know the school your child will be attending (unless they have an older sibling already attending, as they will automatically have been offered a place) either by email or by letting a member of staff know in Pre-school. This is because the "How am I doing?" documents we will be completing for your child at the end of the Summer Term will need to be forwarded onto the relevant schools, thank you.

As previously communicated, from this term we will be introducing a voluntary snack charge of £10 per half-term. **WE WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER SNACK TO ALL CHILDREN** regardless of whether you are able to pay this fee or not. If you are willing and able to donate this amount, (£10 per half-term or £20 for the full Summer Term if you prefer to pay in one go), please pay by direct bank transfer using the following details:

Account name: Upton Village Pre-school
Account Number: 47886268
Sort code: 30-90-89

Please use your child's name and /snack as the reference, e.g. Heather/snack. As this is a voluntary donation, we are able to claim gift-aid on this so we will be asking you to sign a gift aid form when we see a payment come through.

You will notice that we have spent some time in Pre-school over the holidays tidying and trying to brighten up the outdoors. Most of the resources we have ordered are still to be delivered, so you will continue to see some changes over the coming weeks as we receive these. Thank you so much for supporting our fund raising efforts – this is so very much appreciated. Our Easter Raffle raised an amazing £244. Our next fundraising event, later in the term, is our Sponsored Scoot, which is always hugely enjoyed by the children. Children are invited to bring in their own scooters (pre-school scooters are available for children who do not have their own) and see how many times they can scoot around a track and we ask you/your families/work colleagues to sponsor your children. We will release further details of this nearer to the time.

There are so many activities we usually do with the children during our last term, but with the Pandemic, these are regrettably on hold currently and until

we know whether restrictions will be eased fully, we are unable to plan ahead. However, once we know what we are able to do, we will keep you updated!

We will be working more closely with school now that they know which children are going to Upton Heath so they begin to know your child prior to their start in Reception. We liaise with other schools also and they are welcome to come and visit your child while in Pre-school once restrictions are eased (hopefully!)

The remaining term dates are as follows:

Summer Term starts - Monday 19th April

May Day – Monday 3rd May

Half Term - Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Summer Term – Monday 7th June - Friday 16th July

During the holidays, Malaki, Emmie and Harvey all turned 4 and we hope they had a lovely birthday. In May, we wish Jasper and Olivia a very happy 4th Birthday.

Lastly, a couple of reminders.....the new term means that I will be asking many of you to resign your funding forms (some of you signed for all year, so don't worry if you're not asked!). Any amendments to hours have already been made to make the whole process quicker for you at the door.

We always put in a plea for some donated kitchen towelling if you have a roll or two going spare as we often say we keep the industry going all by ourselves!

Who knows what the weather will bring in this term so if the weather gets warmer, please apply sun cream before your child comes to Pre-school and pack a sunhat. Likewise, you are likely to need a coat/hoodie for wetter or cooler days and wellies are now able to be left in our new welly house!

I hope you enjoyed reading your child's learning journey before the Easter break, if you have not already managed to return this we would be grateful if you could return this as soon as possible so that staff can keep these updated, thank you.

Thanks, Heather & Staff