 All Saints Preschool

All Saints Church Hall

Petersfield road

Winchester

SO23 0jd

allsaintspreschool@hotmail.co.uk

07871195724

**January Newsletter**  We would like to welcome all our new starters to Preschool, it has been lovely to meet all the new parents and children. If you have any siblings or friends who would like to look around or join preschool, please contact Charlotte asap as our spaces are filling fast for September 2023, April 2024 and September 2024.

**Cold weather**  **There is an extreme weather report from services for young children to ensure everyone stays safe. It is essential we have the correct contact details for all parents and that you can be contacted straight away if needed.** A reminder that we still must have good ventilation in preschool as part of our covid DFE guidance, so we need to have windows open all day. Please ensure your child has extra layers on when it is cold. Please could you bring named wellington boots in for your child as we are struggling to have enough spares and correct sizes. Wellies and waterproofs, hat and gloves are needed all labelled clearly.

**Items to donate or look out for to help us** Dolls styling heads Good condition dress up clothes and hats Dolls buggies Playdough accessories (not shapes or numbers) Wooden and magnetic puzzles Musical instruments Weighing toys (safe size to not be choking hazard) CD player Toddler Books/ touch and feel/ lift the flaps and basic words barbie and action men and clothes

**Headlice** please continue to check your child’s hair daily with a comb.

**Healthy lunch box & grapes** we are really pleased that most lunch boxes are healthy at present we would just like to remind you that nuts, sweets, and large chocolate bars are not allowed. Grapes are fantastic but **do need to be cut in half** **long ways** as they are a choking hazard. We would also like you to label lunch boxes clearly, drink bottles and all Tupperware including lids as they are very easily mixed up. Please add spoons and forks if needed as we are running extremely low.

**Illness** if your child is unwell, please keep them home warm and safe. If your child needs Calpol then they are not well enough to be at preschool. (They do like to tell us if they have had medicine) if your child is unwell, please text or email so we can keep a record.

**Key group and parent catchup** we will be sending out reports at the end of this term (end march), if you would like to discuss your child’s development with their keyworker please email or call for an appointment time. The reports are the outcome of our development checks. We highlight what we have seen your child achieve and then use the data to do reports. You will be able to see what age category they are in and whether they are emerging into it, developing nicely or secure. If your child is showing younger than their age all this means is that we haven’t seen them complete activities in this section, their language could be delaying what they can show us they know etc. it’s a really helpful way to show staff what we need to work on next with your child to move them forward.

**Potty/toilet training Please ensure your child has fresh nappy when they arrive at preschool, we will change as needed and at nappy time. We are busy trying to settle all children in at the beginning of each session** Due to lots of children potty/toilet training at present, which is amazing! We are asking that children have Velcro trainers or shoes they can get on and off themselves. If using pull ups please ensure they have a side fastening (it takes a long time to undress and dress each child) and ensure enough pants, socks and trousers are in their bags and that their clothes are loose-fitting so they can easily get onto the toilet in time. If you are putting pull ups on your child then we ask that you do not put vests with poppers, if you are not toilet training and would like to use vests with poppers then nappies are easier. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/babys-development/potty-training-and-bedwetting/how-to-potty-train/

**Easter event** We are eggcited to be able to have an Easter Event on Thursday 30th March, this will be split into 2 groups as we have so many children on register and would like to be able to offer all the children and parents the opportunity to attend. (We do ask that only one family member attends) We will do an egg hunt, some crafts and your child can show you what they enjoy doing at preschool. The times will be 9 till 10 and 10.30 till 11.30. we will have signup sheets closer to the time. We will draw the Easter Raffle in the afternoon, this way if you are a winner, you can collect your prize on Friday. We would love Easter Raffle donations which we can start taking from now. If you know anyone who would kindly donate too then please ask, the more prizes the better 😊 you will be offered tickets closer to the time.

**Fundraising** Thank you for your continued support with fundraising for Preschool. We raised £100 on the Christmas scratch card, £330 on the Christmas raffle. A big thank you also to parents who have donated toys and art supplies, everything is put to effective use and the children love it.

**Extra sessions & funding** Helpful information-if both parents work 16 hours each or more, or a single parent family who works 16 hours, and your child turns 3 before the end of March you **can apply for 30 hours free childcare**. We recommend applying 3 months before their 3rd birthday. You will be told if you qualify or not and given a code if successful. If you already have a code, please make sure you login regularly to update the account so you do not miss deadlines. This is on the government website. Deadline for April is the end of March. If your child is 2 years old and you are on a low income, you can apply for 15 hours free childcare on Hampshire council website.

**Invoices,** please ensure all invoices are paid as soon as possible so we can issue next terms bills. If you are struggling, please contact the bookkeeper katy toms. A reminder that if fees fall into arrears, we can reduce sessions which is something we don’t want to happen.

**Prompt collection/drop off** now we have so many children we would like to ask that you can drop off and collect your child promptly. Staff need to settle children in, take the register and have lunch breaks to make the day run smoothly. If you have any questions, queries or need to chat with a member of staff please phone, text, or email so we can give you our full attention and remember the information given.

**Congratulations** congratulations to Sam Smith on completing her NVQ level 3, we are all immensely proud of you.

**Dates for the year**

* **Easter event Thursday 30th March (All money raised will be used towards the trip to keep the costs down)**
* **half term Monday 13th to Friday 17th February**
* **Movie fundraiser**
* **sports day Thursday 8th June**
* **Trip to farm, date to be confirmed.**
* **Easter Holidays Monday 3rd to Friday 14th April**
* **Bank holidays 7th** April 10th April, May 1st, May 8th
* **May half term 29th may to 2nd June**
* **Graduation photo for children going up to school Thursday 15th June (by concept photography)**
* **Open day/ meet and greet new starters June date to be arranged.**
* **Inset Days** **Thursday July 20TH and Friday 21ST 2023**
* **Leaver’s ceremony Wednesday 19th July**