



## JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to our last half-term of the year. The children have settled back in well and are busy exploring outdoors, setting seeds and planting flowers to enhance our garden area. They are very interested in building dens and making caves with the large pieces of cardboard we had on the Feast float. Who needs toys?! The childrens' imaginations are amazing and we have seen some who would not normally pick up a pencil both drawing and mark making on the cardboard. At one point, every child was drawing! They have been playing collaboratively, listening to each other's views and ideas. Whilst building their dens and homes, they have shared rich language talking about their families, life experiences and next-door neighbours. We are extending their learning using the white board to look at caves and life under the sea.

### **Toys**

Please do not send your child to Tiddlywinks with toys from home. If your child is new to the setting and needs a comforter of some kind in their first few weeks, they may bring a small item from home which can be kept in their drawer and given to them if they become very distressed.

### **Warmer Weather**

As the weather finally begins to warm up, the children will no longer be wearing their all-in-one suits outside. Old clothes are essential for when the children are in the mud kitchen, mixing or exploring outside. Please send in a full, spare set of old clothes in a named bag for your child to change into for outside play.

Please continue to send in a suitable coat for the time of year, together with a sun hat. Please apply suncream to your child before arrival. We will top up during the day with SPF 50 cream.

### **Shoes**

Please be mindful of the shoes your child wears to Pre-School. They need to be able to fasten and unfasten their shoes independently. Also, whilst open-toed sandals and Crocs are cooler in the warmer weather, they can become very slippery under foot when the children play with water or sand and are not suitable for climbing activities.

### **Parent Consultations**

Parent Consultations will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July and Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July. Times to be confirmed. The schedule will be posted on the noticeboard outside so please keep an eye out in the coming weeks and book the time slot you would like.

### **Advance Notice**

Please be aware that on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June, we will have only one member of staff. Of necessity, our staff ratios will be reduced and we will only be able to accept 8 children to the setting. You will be contacted nearer the time to confirm whether or not your child will be able to attend on that day. We apologise in advance and thank you for your co-operation.

### **Fee Payments**

Fee payments can be made in cash, by cheque, by BACS, using voucher schemes or the Government tax-free childcare scheme. If you intend to pay via a voucher scheme, please set up your plan in good time and ensure you allow sufficient time for the vouchers to clear in our account to avoid incurring a late payment charge. Some voucher payments can take 3-5 days or longer to clear.

### **30-Hour Funding Eligibility Deadline**

Please remember the deadline for applying for 30 hours of funded childcare for the Autumn Term is 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

You can find a full step-by-step guide to the 30 hour extended entitlement at

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>

**IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS OR ARE WORRIED ABOUT ANYTHING CONCERNING YOUR CHILD WHILST THEY ATTEND TIDDLYWINKS, PLEASE COME AND SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF TIDDLYWINKS STAFF.**