



St John's Pre-school Newsletter – May 2022

Hi All,

Welcome to May! We hope you've all enjoyed a long bank holiday weekend with your friends and families.

It's been another fun filled month with plenty on the agenda, we would like to say a big thank you again to everyone who supported us at our Easter fete. It was a super afternoon for children and parents plus a successful fundraiser making £255.46 for the preschool. Additionally, thank you to everyone for your kind donations to bags2school, we had a huge mound of bags. We'll let you know as soon as we hear back as to how much this has raised.

During the Easter break we managed to complete 'operation clear up' in the preschool garden. Thank you to the amazing **Jack Brann at Country Oak Barns**, the new pergola is now complete and is not only looking fantastic but the children are loving the new space too.

For those children who are taking the next step up to 'big school', we hope you were all pleased with your allocated school places. We will continue to support the children over the coming months to help with their smooth transition into primary school.

April Highlights



After the two-week Easter break in April to recharge our batteries, the children have returned to preschool full of the joys of spring and ready and eager to learn. Above are just a few pics of what the children have been up to recently.

May Birthdays

Mrs Sawyer 7th May

Freya and Thea will turn 4 on the 30th May.

A big happy birthday, we hope you all enjoy your special day.

May Plans

Our theme for the week beginning 2nd May is 'Understanding The World, The Natural World'.

This week is a mini beast theme with an indoor garden, including 'I spy' glasses to help spot all the bugs. We will make some 'nature butterflies' and watch our preschool cocoons turn into butterflies and then set them free.





9th May - Understanding The World – Past and Present and People and Communities

16th May - Creating with Materials

23rd May - Being Imaginative and Expressive

Our Woodland walk will be taking place this term where we learn a little about the nature on our doorstep in the forest. This will take place over the next two weeks, date to be confirmed.

Staffing

Sadly we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Sawyer (Zena) this week. We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thankyou to Zena for all of her dedication, hard work and care she has provided over the years. She has been such a massive part of the preschool for a long time and will be missed by all. We wish her all the best in her new path. We are collecting donations from parents past and present to buy Zena a little thank you gift. If you'd like to donate please give either cash to Rachel/Natalie/Sharon **before Wednesday midday**, or transfer into the fundraising account with reference '**Zena Leaving**'

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Account Name: ST JOHN'S PRE-SCHOOL AND TODDLER GROUP



With Zena departing we have been busy recruiting a new member of staff to fill the opening and we are very pleased to introduce and welcome Jenny Carr to the preschool team.

Jenny is Cache Level 3 qualified and has many years of experience working in the childcare sector in both nursery/preschool settings as well as working most recently as a nanny. Jenny has a son who attends St Johns Primary School and is really looking forward to starting at the preschool on Tuesday 10th May.

Feedback Survey

We're always keen to learn and improve and therefore we'll be sending out a feedback survey to all parents with children departing the pre-school for school in September. This survey will be coming out in June. We really appreciate your input and feedback.

Free May Half Term Event

STORY SACK SESSION 31st May 10-12pm Crowborough Library.



Make reading more fun for you and your child/children and bring to life the book 'The Little Red Hen' Suitable for families with children aged 3-7. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please book a ticket for each family attending. Book at: www.eastsussex.gov.uk/libraryevents



AGM

You are invited to our **annual AGM on Tuesday 24th May (7-8pm) at the preschool.**

What is the AGM?

This is a chance to hear about what's been happening at the pre-school throughout the year and for the committee to present the annual accounts.

The committee and staff have been working so hard this year to navigate Covid and various other challenges. We would love for current parents/carers and new parents/carers to come and help us celebrate our 2021/22 wins and hear what needs to happen in 2022/23.

We'll be offering snacks and drinks at the event, so the perfect chance to catch up with the pre-school community in a social environment.

New Committee – we need you!

The current committee (Rachel, Sharon and Natalie) all have kids heading off to school this year, so will be standing down from the committee. We are therefore looking for parents/grandparents/carers to take on the role and help support our wonderful pre-school. **Without a committee the pre-school is unable to run so this really is a vital part of the puzzle.**

We need to ensure that a Chair, Treasurer and Secretary are appointed by the AGM date. So **PLEASE help us find role replacements** and ensure that all the work the committee have done this year is carried into 2022/23.

These roles are one of the biggest ways you can help support the pre-school, staff and children. It will not only give you the opportunity to meet and build relationships with so many other parents/carers, it will also teach you so many new skills. You don't have to have experience in any of the areas, you just need to be friendly, collaborative and happy to pitch in.

If you'd like to discuss the roles in more detail or would like to nominate yourself for a role please contact one of the committee below by Monday 16th May:

Rachel Pullen (Chair): Rachel.lucy.pullen@gmail.com

Sharon Hockly (Secretary): Sharon.hockly@gmail.com

Natalie Peers (Treasurer): n.oliver@hotmail.co.uk

As always, if you have any questions on the above, please feel free to contact us on email or phone.

The Pre-School Team

PLEASE NOTE ALL NEWSLETTERS WILL BE UPLOADED TO THE WEBSITE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE