



Somerville Pre – School

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Newsletter for Summer Term 2023

Welcome back to the Summer Term

We will be having a busy fun term including celebrating the King`s Coronation, with an extra Bank holiday on Monday 8th May 2023. Children will be taking part in various activities and will be having a coronation party for all children on Friday 5th May 2023 during the morning; children can come dressed up in smart clothes or as King, Queen, Prince or Princess.



As the hot weather arrives please ensure to follow our Sun Protection policy and to apply Sun Protection on your child when the temperatures rise.

Please ensure to send children to pre-school on time in the mornings, as this disrupts other children whilst they are taking part in group activities especially if children are arriving between 9.30am- 10.00am. **Morning session starts at 9.00am.**

We understand that some children have been offered a **reception place** to start in September 2023, please ensure to let us know the name of the school so transition reports can be sent over to the school, when needed. We will be working with the children to get them ready for school, e.g. gaining independence, by helping them to dress them, recognising their name and belongings which will help their transfer to school.

If your child has been offered a school nursery place please let us know the name of the school so transfer reports can be sent over to the school when needed. **We would like to remind you that we deliver the same curriculum as the school nursery and that you will need to reapply again for the school reception place.** If your child will be staying at Somerville please confirm the hours and days you would like for September 2023

We are taking admissions now for the Summer Term, please let friends, families and neighbours know if they have children aged between 2years and 4 and half.

We are looking for volunteers to distribute our leaflets, if you would like to help us please let us know. If you have any other means of advertising our pre-school please let us know.

Allocation of sessions

Please note your child's place has been allocated on set days during the week, this has been set term in advance and agreed with you. Ratios of staff /children per day have been organised in accordance to our register. In order for Pre-school to comply with our registration with authorities, **we regret to inform you that if your child has missed allocated days, you cannot automatically attend other non-allocated days. (Consideration may be given, in certain circumstances, but authority from Manager will be needed).**

Pre-School Fees

This term`s fees are now due, so payment being made as soon as possible would be appreciated. **The fees have been increased by £1.00** (as mentioned in Spring Newsletter) which now is **£15.00 per session**. Should your child be ill or absent because of holidays, **fees still have to be paid**. We are flexible in how payments are made i.e. weekly or monthly but they have to be paid in advance. **(As agreed and signed in the Somerville Pre-School/Parent Contract)**

Funded children

If your child receives the two, three, or four-year-old funding, please ensure your child attends on selected days, as unauthorised absences are recorded and monitored by local authority. Please provide letters for absent days.

If your child is funded and does not attend on agreed days and is persistently absent, funding will be clawed back by the government, which means you will be asked to pay preschool fees for that time. **(As agreed and signed in the Somerville Pre-School/Parent Contract)**

The 30 hours funding scheme for children 3 years and 4 years, is aimed at helping working parents with childcare costs and enabling parents to return to work. Please ensure to renew your code every 3 months for continued funding.

Of course, your children's welfare should be put first and the education authorities recommend that children should use only one to two providers per day. Therefore, for those of you who have already applied or nursery places we would like you to consider using our setting for the full 30 hours, all nurseries (preschool, day nursery or school nurseries), must, according to Ofsted offer the same curriculum, and listening to experiences from past parents we can advise that accepting a school nursery place **does not guarantee** a place in reception in that school.

If you wish to withdraw your child from Pre-School, please let us know the reason and written 4 weeks' notice.

If your child is funded and you wish to withdraw your child, please refer back to the funding contract, and follow the guidance.

Reminders

Your Contact details

We would like to remind all parents and carers that if there are changes in your details such as

- Mobile/Home telephone numbers
- Address
- Emergency Contact details
- Who is able to collect your child

Would you please let us know as soon as possible if these change so that we can update our records?

Collecting your child

For any problems regarding collection please phone Pre-school telephone number provided on Preschool business card to let us know, what arrangements' have been made. (TEL-07765072797)
If you are unable to collect your child and have made arrangements for a friend or relative to collect your child, we will provide you with a password, so they are able to collect your child, we will not be able to handover your child unless we have met the person or a password has been shared.

Mobiles/cameras

We do not allow the use of phones/cameras by parents/carers whilst at preschool. (Safeguarding children policy) and we ask you to kindly finish your conversation before entering (arrivals and collection policy, plus RTT good practice).

During the next term as usual, all staff will be developing activities with the children, using their interests to form a positive sense of themselves and others, helping to form positive relationships and personal social and emotional skills. The children will be making their own rules with guidance. We will also be developing their independence.

The children will have the opportunity to discover various types of creativity and movement and use their imagination during role play activities. Staff will be using simple Makaton signs whilst speaking, to encourage further communication skills.

Plans for the first half Summer Term (Monday 17th April 2023 to Friday 26th May 2023) (6 week half term)

People who help us, Pirates, Growing & Planting, Maths/Numbers, Mark Making/Writing, New Growth Life Cycles/Planting

Plans for the second half Summer Term. (Monday 5th June 2023 to Friday 21st July 2023) (7 week half term)

**Developing Independence, School Readiness, Transport and Travel,
Telescopes, what can we see? Land, Sea and Space.**

Topics based on summer experiences, importance of sun protection/hydration.

(Please note: Our plans are subject to change)

Your child's key person is the best person to chat to about your child's progress and they will be willing to have a short chat about your child. If wished a five to ten-minute slot may be made with your key person at a time convenient to both setting and yourself. If, however the key person is not present then you may discuss matters with the Manager who will direct you to the most suitable staff member for your child.

Please do not distract staff standing at the main door, if wishing to speak to them, ask the manager who will arrange a substitute door monitor.

We do consider your views and like to know about your children's interests, these are important to us and encourage home preschool interaction.

Policies

These can be found on our website (currently being updated) and are also on display to view in setting, there is also a Purple Folder containing all our policies and procedures available to look at. Please do not hesitate to look around the pre-school and look at our display boards and posters.

If there is any information you would like to know about, please do ask.

Tapestry Journal Online

As you are aware, we have introduced TAPESTRY Online Journal, we have had lots of good feedback since going live. We will continue this as you will have seen the benefits of being able to view your child's learning and development on a weekly basis. (Includes observations on activities your child has taken part in, Adult led & child led, Next Step planned activities and reports) Parents are able to add information, observations you may have done and upload photos. The Key person will be able to answer some of questions through the memo's which can be sent vice versa.

Suitable clothing for Pre-school. (According to the weather)

As we are promoting independence could we ask you to ensure your child has clothing that is easy for them to remove for toilet training, vests that are pop closed, belts and trousers and tights are very difficult for them and staff at this time.

(Jogging bottoms/leggings)

If your child is in nappies please ensure to provide nappies and wipes once a month

Clothing

We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child has their name written in their coats, jackets, cardigans, hats, wellingtons etc. This helps We identify items that are found or helps identify whose things belong to Whom when it's home time or when we visit the garden.

Uniform is compulsory

You can buy this from us: - T shirts £5.00 each

Sweat shirts £10.00 each

Hoodies £15.00 each

Fleeces £15.00 each

Drinks bottles

Please could you ensure that you only send water in your child's bottle, as we have previously mentioned we are no longer allowed to let the children have juice or milkshake here at preschool. This is in line with the governments green paper, "*Every Child Matters, Change for Children.*" For more information, you can log onto www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

PACKED LUNCH. If your child has a packed lunch, please ensure to follow Government guidelines. Also in hot weather please add a cool pack to the lunches, as there are too many lunch bags to fit in our fridge.

PLEASE ENSURE TO CUT GRAPES & TOMATOES IN HALF TO AVOID THE RISK OF CHOKING

Healthy Snack Time

Along the lines of the above government policy, children are no longer allowed sweet sugary snacks at preschool. We offer a variety of healthy snacks, raisins, cucumber, carrots, different fruits, cheese and crackers. **We would ask parents/carers to donate £1.00 each week towards the purchase of snack food.**

Sickness

Coughs and sneezes spread diseases. Your child will not benefit from attending a session when they are unwell and there is a good chance will spread their infection to other children and staff.

Should your child be unwell, please keep them at home. In cases of diarrhoea and sickness, children should be kept out of school for forty-eight hours after their last motion.

Please provide a letter on your child return to setting explain their absence

Dates for your diary

Bank Holiday Monday 1st May 2023

PHOTOGRAPHER Visiting On Wednesday 3rd May 2023, you may dress your child in smart clothes; we will not have messy play out on this day.

King`s Coronation Party Morning Session for all children Friday 5th May 2023
Extra Bank Holiday Monday 8th May 2023 King`s Coronation

(Pre-School will be closed on Bank Holidays)

Half term holidays Last Day of Term Friday 26th May 2023, (Holidays Monday 29th May 2023 Friday 2nd June 2023) Pre-school re-opens Monday 5th June 2023

Last Day of Summer Term Friday 21st July 2023, which will be a half day so all children will finish at the same time of 12pm.

Thank you for your continued co-operation

Staff of Somerville