

Snack: Please send your child to school with a small healthy snack - this can be either one whole piece of fruit or vegetable in a named pot. Fruits such as grapes, strawberries and tomatoes must be cut up (due to the increased risk of choking, if they are not).

Suncream: Please apply suncream to your child as required before they come to Pre-School. We cannot apply suncream to the children during the session. Please ensure your child has a named sunhat as the weather gets warmer.

Cohort 1 Parent telephone conversations: During the week commencing 23rd May, we will be giving you the opportunity to discuss the progress your child is making and how we can continue to work together to prepare them for the Reception Class. Days and times are to follow.

PE: These sessions are held on Thursday and Friday mornings.

Sports Afternoon: All Pre-School children are invited to the whole school's Sports Afternoon on 25th May. Further information will follow.

Library: Our library days are Monday and Friday - the children will bring home a book on Monday which must be returned on Friday so that they can choose a new one.

Our relationship with you is very important for your child to succeed. What parents do at home with their children has a major impact on social, emotional and intellectual development and children with strong home learning environments are ahead in both social and cognitive development by the age of three. Please share information with us about the progress your child is making at home, their particularly likes/dislikes, interests or things they may find difficult etc. We will share information with you about your child's day at Pre-School and discuss how you can help your child further. This may be a brief discussion at the beginning or end of a session or we can arrange a telephone conversation. We will also keep you updated with activities and information through emails.

'The '50 things to do before you're five' app' gives some great ideas of things to do at home! www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/cambridgeshire-early-years-and-childcare/narrowing-the-gap/50-things-to-do

We have also been notified that Boots the Chemist is offering free oral hygiene products to families of children aged 3-5. If parents go into store and "ask for Jesse", they will be provided with oral health products for the children.

See: <https://dentistry.co.uk/2022/02/15/ask-for-jesse/>

Finally, we would be grateful for your old newspapers for our arts and craft activities!

Thank you for your continued support.

Claire Covill
Pre-School Leader

LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



LINK-UP SUMMER TERM 2022

Pre-School - Mrs Covill

General Overview

Welcome back to the Summer Term at Pre-School and welcome to our new children who have joined us this term. This term's activities are planned around the themes of 'Growth' and 'Summer' and many of the activities will follow the children's own interests and ideas. The Early Years Foundation Curriculum is divided into seven areas of learning. We plan our activities to develop a range of skills within these areas.

Our focus for the new children is their development in the three Prime Areas: (1) Personal, Social and Emotional; (2) Physical; and (3) Communication and Language Development.

Cohort 1 children will be starting school this September and we will support their transition to the Reception Class through visits to their new classroom and walks around the school.

Personal, Social and Emotional

Over the next few weeks, our new children will feel increasingly settled and secure in their new environment. They will make friends and build relationships with the adults. Their confidence will increase, they will begin to select resources more independently and learn to manage their own belongings and personal hygiene. They will become familiar with our rules and routines and begin to follow these with less support.

Our daily 'Circle Time' will help the children to gain confidence and develop their self-esteem. They will take turns in games, build their focus and attention and listen to others. Through these games, they will acquire new skills and knowledge. The older children will be encouraged to work together to extend and elaborate their play. We encourage them to listen to the ideas of others and to find solutions to conflicts that may arise.

Communication and Language

Speaking and listening games form part of our daily routines in which the children begin to follow instructions, use longer sentences and express their view. Many of our activities are linked to books. They will enjoy listening to longer stories and recall much of what happens using a wider vocabulary. They will join in with repetitive phrases, predict endings, act out stories, use puppets and have lots of opportunities to ask questions and share experiences.

The 'Reading Area' has a range of fiction and non-fiction books, as well as CD stories, from which the children can independently choose. They can even record themselves making up a story!

Children learn about tone, beat, rhythm and rhyme through singing. Daily songs and rhymes expose them to new words. Attached are our core rhymes for this term which your child may like to sing at home with you.

Physical Development

Gross motor skills are developed through activities such as climbing, balancing, using balls and biking. Their fine motor skills are supported through opportunities for cutting, building, clay moulding, drawing, painting and collage.

Physical Development also includes looking after ourselves. The children are encouraged to develop their self-care skills, including managing going to the toilet and washing their hands thoroughly, wiping their nose independently and disposing of the tissue. The children will also learn about healthy eating through cooking activities in which they will begin to identify foods which are healthy and less healthy.

Specific Areas

Mathematics, Understanding the World, Literacy and Expressive Arts and Design

We continue with our daily phonics sessions which are taught through 'Storytime Phonics.' We focus on one sound per week which is introduced through a series of books. The letter of the week is displayed on the window so you can support this learning at home.

We also explore the meaning of a new word each week. Children need to hear a word at least twelve times before they fully understand it and can use it in context. Your support in helping your child to build their vocabulary is therefore very important.

We will take advantage of the warmer weather and plan for lots of outside learning, including having bug hunts, playground games, sand and water play and gardening.

General Information

We love to hear the children's news, so please let us know of any family outings, places your child has visited or an achievement they have recently accomplished, such as learning to ride their bike. Your child could share this with us through a picture they have drawn, a photograph or a certificate.

Named Bag: Please ensure that your child has a named bag on their peg with a full set of clothes to change into, if needed. This is particularly important during the Summer months when the children will often be playing with water.

International Week: We will be learning about English culture during the week commencing 7th June.