

### Diary Dates

Rhyme Time: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May (morning session only)

Sports afternoon: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May (weather permitting)

Stay and Play session for parents of new children: 25<sup>th</sup> May

Half Term: 29<sup>th</sup> May - 2<sup>nd</sup> June

International Week: w/c 5<sup>th</sup> June

Summer Fair: 22<sup>nd</sup> June

New Intake Evening for those children starting school in September 2017: 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Pre-School Cake Stall: 7<sup>th</sup> July

Transition morning: 12<sup>th</sup> July - On this day the MORNING children will attend the AFTERNOON SESSION (12.05 p.m.—3.05 p.m.) and the AFTERNOON children will attend the MORNING SESSION (8.50 a.m. - 11.50 a.m.) where they will spend most of their morning in the Reception Class.

Last day of term: 21st July

Please do not hesitate to come and talk to the staff at the beginning of a session, if you have a concern or would like to know more about how your child is settling in and developing at Pre-School.

Thank you for your continued support.

Claire Covill

Pre-School Leader



# Lionel Walden Primary School

# 'LINK UP'



**SUMMER TERM 2017**  
**PRE-SCHOOL**

Pre-School Leader—Mrs. Covill

Many of our activities this term are based around Summer and we continue to develop activities around your child's interests.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is divided into seven areas of learning and our activities are planned to develop a range of skills within these areas of learning. There are three **Prime Areas**, which we will be focussing on in particular, if your child is new to the setting this term. The '**Characteristics of Learning**' also play a very important part. These are skills your child is acquiring in order to support their academic learning, such as maintaining focus, seeking a challenge, perseverance, exploration, curiosity and planning.

**Personal, Social and Emotional** learning relates to Self-Confidence, Feelings and Behaviour and Making Relationships.

As the children build friendships, they begin to play cooperatively with their peers and extend and elaborate play ideas with other children. They begin to learn how to negotiate and solve problems with their peers and have the confidence to seek out adults to support them. Daily 'Circle Time' games help the children to gain confidence and self-esteem, take turns, widen their vocabulary, listen to others and to acquire new skills and knowledge. We support the children in understanding the reasons for our Pre-School rules, such as 'walk carefully inside the building' and the consequences of not following these rules.

**Communication, Language and Literacy** development relates to Listening and Attention, Understanding and Speaking

Daily 'Circle Time' is often a favourite time of the day; through interactive games, the children maintain concentration, develop new skills, and gain confidence to speak in a small group. Their language skills mature as they learn new words and stick to a main theme during our discussions. At the end of each session, the children enjoy a rhyme time session and a story. This supports the development of children's speech and introduces their awareness of rhyming words. Singing songs with children also teaches them about tone, beat and rhythm, and as they join in with actions, they learn balance, co-ordination, spatial awareness and rhythm. You are welcome to join us for a rhyme time session on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 11.30am. Our core stories this term are: 'What the Ladybird Heard', 'The Busy Spider', 'The Hungry Caterpillar', 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and 'The Greedy Bee'.

**Physical Development** supports the development of the Gross Motor Skills

Gross motor skills are developed through activities such as climbing, balancing and using balls and bicycles. In addition to this, the children's fine motor skills are supported whilst using scissors, tracing, building with construction, moulding with clay and putting on their shoes and socks after PE. Children are encouraged to develop their self-care skills and complete the toileting and handwashing sequence. Please encourage these self-help skills at home and ensure your child is dressed in clothing that they can independently manage themselves.

**Other areas of learning are Mathematics, Understanding the World, Literacy and Expressive Arts and Design**

Our role-play area changes along with the children's interests and currently reflects the season. The home corner continues and we have added a garden centre to this. Here the children develop their imagination, language, writing and social skills whilst using a range of mathematical vocabulary.

**Phonics** - This term, the children who attend the afternoon session will be taught phonics through a new scheme called 'Storytime Phonics'. We continue to visit a sound each week and the children will become familiar with the letters and sounds through a sequence of books.

**Home Challenges:** Children who attend the afternoon sessions may be excited to hear that they will receive some 'homework' on occasions. These 'Home Challenges' provide you with ideas to help extend your child's numeracy and literacy skills through a specific game.

You are welcome to contribute to our 'Wow!' board from time to time. This may be a picture your child has drawn or a photograph of an experience they have enjoyed. This is a great way to celebrate their achievements.

We will take advantage of the warmer weather and plan for lots of learning activities to be held outside including bug hunts, shape and number hunts, parachute games, new playground games, exploring through sand and water play and gardening. The children will also be able to observe the life cycle of a butterfly.

During the second half of this term, we would like to take the afternoon children for a walk around the village. The learning objectives for this are linked to one of our core stories, 'What the Ladybird Heard'. We would appreciate some parent helpers in order for this walk to take place. Please let me know if you would be able to help. For those children who have started Pre-School this half term, we will hold a Stay and Play session at the end of the half term. You will have the opportunity to see your child happily settled with their friends and discuss the progress they have made since starting with us with your child's key worker - we are sorry but we are unable to accommodate younger siblings at this session.

We welcome parent helpers as the children benefit hugely from additional support in their activities; if you would like to help, and are able to come on a regular day each week, please come and see me so that we can arrange a mutually convenient day. Please check that your child has a named bag on their peg with a full set of clothes to change into if needed. Thank you.

