

Ide Hill Pre-School



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Contents

- Happy Half Term
- Pre-school Bills
- Our Theme
- Craft materials needed
- Lunch clubs
- Lunch Boxes
- Colour of the Week
- Learning Journal Meetings
- Pyjama/Onesie Day – 5th April
- Book Day
- Parent Questionnaire
- Session Request Forms
- Term Dates
- Easter Hat Parade
- Emails
- Forest School Clothing
- Dads to School
- Recycle Materials
- Wish List
- Car safety
- Loose Parts Play
- Birthdays
- Stars of the Week

Happy Half Term

We hope you all have an enjoyable half term.

Pre-school Bills

To make our bookkeepers job a little easier - If you have said that you have paid, could you please check that the payment has actually left your account and provide a screenshot or similar, together with any voucher reference number, to make it easier and email this over to Laura Piper – lauraloo57@yahoo.co.uk Additionally, please can you also ensure that you pay your bills by the deadline date as shown, as chasing parents' fees

takes so much time. Thank you for your co-operation.

Our Theme

Our theme this term is Fairy Stories. Please look at our website under Curriculum for our information and activity sheet which helps you to continue our theme at home. You can also access the Sounds of the week/colours/French words and numbers for the term. Our website address is www.idehillpreschool.org. A copy will also be on our notice board.

Felt Tip Pens/Pencils/Paper

We would love some new craft materials, felt tip pens/paper/stickers/pencils. Thank you.

Lunch Boxes

Please could you remember to **name** your child's lunch box and water bottle. This will avoid items going missing and drinks bottles going home in the wrong lunch boxes. Additionally, if you are providing grapes/cherry tomatoes please ensure they are cut in half.

We also have **NO NUTS** in pre-school, food such as Pesto (which contain nuts) is also not allowed. Thank you.

Colour of the Week

Please could you help your children bring in something each week for our colour table.

Week 1 - Brown

Week 2 - Gold

Week 3 - White

Week 4 - Green

Week 5 - Red

Week 6 - Yellow

Learning Journal Meetings

We hope you found these useful, if you did not get the opportunity to speak with your key person, we can arrange alternative dates. The second parents morning will be held in July.

Pyjama and Onesie Day - 5th April

Our charity this term is Crackerjacks Children's Trust - which raises much needed funds for disabled children. On **Friday 5th April** we will be holding a pyjama/onesie day, please send in your children wearing their favourite PJ's and we would kindly ask for a £2.00 donation towards this worthy cause. Further information will be sent out shortly.

Book Day

Book day is on **Thursday 7th March**. Please send your child in with their favourite book.

Parent Questionnaire

Please remember to return your questionnaires to pre-school for those parents, who haven't already done so, your feedback is important to us.

Session Allocation

Session allocation forms will be sent out this term. Please ensure you add your required sessions from September 2019 - July 2020 in order to secure your child's place for September 2019.

Term Dates

We finish this term on **Friday 5th April, this is a full day.**

Easter Hat Parade

Our Easter Hat Parade this year will be on **Thursday 4th April at 2.00 p.m. and finish by 2.45 p.m.**

All children and their families are invited to attend - please be at pre-school at 09.15 a.m. with hats. The parade will begin at 9.30 a.m. this will be followed by a few Easter songs performed by the children.

Parents are invited to make a hat with their children, it is really important for the children to contribute to these creations! There is a prize for the most creative hat designed by the children.

Emails

Emails are consistently reviewed up until 5.00 p.m. each working day but **NOT** during the half term holiday. However, please note that emails received outside normal working hours, may not be answered until the next working day.

Forest School

Forest School is open to all children aged 3 and over. We

will go out in all weather except for strong winds (due to danger of falling branches.) Therefore, it is important that the children are prepared for the outdoors. This means keeping them dry and warm. Please ensure on the days your child is going to Forest school, they have adequate warm weather clothing i.e. a coat, hat, gloves, or waterproof suit, wellies and welly socks. If the Forest School session is in the morning, please bring them in dressed in these clothes - thank you.

Dads/Granddads to School

We recognise the importance of involving Dads/Granddads into our pre-school. Back by popular demand, we will be holding our "Dads/Granddads come to School Day" on **Monday 10th June a.m. and Thursday 13th June a.m.** Please put these dates into your diaries.

The idea is that Dads/Granddads come along at 09.15 and join in with the many activities which will be available during the morning session i.e. cooking, woodwork, gardening, washing cars etc. We hope to see as many of you as possible on one of the dates.

Recycle Materials

Please recycle materials by bringing them in to enhance the following areas
Box modelling/creative work
Wicker baskets - all sizes
□ A4 paper/card
Kitchen roll tubes (not toilet rolls)

- Small boxes/cartons
- Clean milk bottle tops
- Bits of ribbon/string/wool/felt/lace
- Wrapping paper/tissue paper/wallpaper
- Christmas cards/wrapping paper etc
- Mark-making
- Old calendars
- Diaries
- Note books
- Post its
- Envelopes
- Other unwanted items of stationery

Amazon & Easyfundraising

We have been amazed by the wonderful generosity of parents who have purchased items from our wish list.

For our new parents, the Wish list (search for Ide Hill Pre-School in your own Amazon account wish list section) has a range of craft, play and educational equipment that we'd love to get for the children.

How do do it....

If you go into your own amazon account, then click on wish lists (top right) and search for Ide Hill Pre School (should be on the left) you should find it.

There are various items to purchase, thank you so much.

Are you booking your summer holiday online?
SIGN UP NOW to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> and raise money for Ide Hill Pre-school, it doesn't cost you anything. (Go to its website and search

for Ide Hill Preschool).

Furthermore, please remember if buying items on line, to go via the easyfundraising website - companies such as Amazon and John Lewis and many more will make a donation to the Pre-School every time you shop online. Thank you so much.

Winter Coats and Car Seat Safety

Please follow the link below - which discusses how children wearing bulky coats with car seats is dangerous.

<https://saferide4kids.com/blog/winter-coats-and-car-seats/>



Birthdays

Anna 16/02
Charlotte 7/3
Freddie 12/3
Phoebe 15/3
Rory 19/3
Harris 24/03
Jemima 2/4
Arabella 19/4
Isabel 20/04

Stars of the week

Our stars for last term are the following children.

Week 1 - Charlotte - for sitting to lovely at circle time.

Week 2 - Harris - for counting up to 100 at circle time.

Week 3 - Matilda - being so helpful and getting herself dressed after swimming.

Week 4 - Ivy LT/Lottie - AMAZING junk modelling creations.

Week 5 - Nahla - for fantastic role play.



Week 6 - Brody - For amazing understanding of opposites.
Olivia - for being so kind and helpful to the new children.

Loose Parts - Play

"Loose parts play" refers to a way of thinking, not just a collection of objects and is an exciting potential when children choose from a wide range of random objects. Loose parts, unleashes and empowers children's creativity; imaginatively creating their own visions, decision making, changing their minds, adding and subtracting materials, in the moment action crossing the curriculum using literacy, numeracy and even science.

Children develop resilience and determination as they work to identify solutions to the many questions which occur during the process.

The end product is a fabulous result of valuable learning that has occurred during the amazing process of creation. Most importantly providing opportunities to express joyfulness and have fun !!

Loose Parts play at Home

No need to get rid of all your children's favourite toys ... fantastic opportunities for re-cycling even items such as toasters, alarm clocks or old radio's to pull apart for investigate reconstruction or repurpose into something entirely different. Using small baskets for small world play, you can add blocks, leaves stones, sticks, pebbles, fabric scraps pine cones, buttons,

pegs, even flowers. Recycling items you might normally throw away ... paper rolls, plastic bottles, cardboard boxes, and even plumbing tubes.

Some items may be either locational or seasonal ... so there are exciting opportunities for family trips to the park, forest or beach to collect Loose Parts such as sea shells, drift wood or flora, this will also help the children learn about the changing seasons during the year. With Loose Parts Play the possibilities are endless ... Who knows where our loose parts play adventures both at Pre-School and home will take us?

Planning and building
Yet no-one is preaching

We use woodwork tools
We make our own toys
A wonderful craft
For girls and for boys

For fine motor skills
There are hammers and nails
Teaching us to keep trying
If our first attempt fails

Our imaginations on fire
We scribe our own stories
We love our thumbs up
We learn through our glories

We're making friends
Whilst improving our speech
Our environments our classroom
Set out right to teach

There's nothing you can't learn
By moving around
We wiggle and poke
With our bums on the ground

At Ide Hill pre-school
We build up resilience
We're proud and we're happy
to show off our brilliance.

Our passion is learning
But learning through play,
Don't sit us down
We're not built that way.

Happy Half Term.

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP US COLLECT FOR LOOSE PARTS PLAY?

Loose Parts play is very inexpensive, many of the materials can be easily be sourced by just using your discarded items at home or in the community. Here is a list of what we are hoping to gather for the children to use either natural, man-made or seasonal items :- Stones, stumps, twigs, logs, large branches, leaves, pipes, pebbles, cardboard boxes, tubes, wood pallets, balls, buckets, baskets, crates, rope, tyres, boxes, shells seedpods, wool, any craft materials, sheets, fabric pieces, old clocks, toasters kettles, garden pots, building materials, chain, wooden reels, containers, canvas, hoops, tools, bolts.

School Readiness

If a child can hold a pencil,
write their own name,
count to 100,
recognise all the colours & shapes.
But doesn't know how to make friends.
Manage their emotions
and conflict resolution.
To be independent
& have self help skills.
None of the other stuff matters.

The Curiosity Approach

Learning through Play

Our passion is learning,
But learning through play
We don't want to sit
We're not built that way.

Out in the water, we can
learn with such pleasure;
filling and pouring
Yet learning of measure

The sand pit; such fun
but imagine the teaching