



This is it, we have reached the final half term of the year! I know I keep saying it, but it really has been the most unusual year any of us have ever experienced and I think that we won't be too sad to see the back of it! However, as ever, we will be incredibly sad to say goodbye to all the children moving onto the to their next adventure at "Big School". All being well, we have some big and exciting plans for Graduation this year which will be a celebration of all the children, families and fantastic staff and all we have achieved together this year. Our **Graduation ceremony** will take place on **Monday 12th July**. All graduating children will be invited in that day so please do put it in your diaries, invitations will follow shortly.

School Transitions

I am pleased to say that Mrs Chapman and I have arranged a series of Transition activities for the children who will be going to Great Doddington Primary School. Starting on Tuesday 8th June, Mrs Chapman (class teacher) and Mrs Callister (Teaching Assistant) will be coming to read a story with those children who will be moving next door. The children will also have 2 opportunities to visit the school and have a story in Elm Class. We're waiting to see if there will be a Moving Up day at the end of term - if the school Bubbles remain in place, it's unlikely to go ahead. Unfortunately, it's not logistically possible to arrange Transition activities for children going to different schools but we will speak to their prospective teachers and pass on Transition reports.

Staff Changes

You may have noticed that before half term, our team was somewhat depleted. That is because poor Charlene has broken her leg and is not able to be at Preschool at the moment. We are very hopeful that she will be back for the last week of term but I shall keep you posted! In better news, we have appointed a new member of staff. Melissa Leadbeater will be joining the team from the middle of June. We are excited for you to get to know her and are sure that she will be a real asset to us. Melissa comes with a great deal of experience in working within the Early Years and an excellent knowledge of SEN and inclusion. We have also had a number of new volunteers, so you may soon see a few new faces helping out in the mornings at Preschool.

Parents Meetings

Will be held the on Monday 21st June 9-11am and Wednesday 23rd June 4.00-6.00pm. Sign-up sheets will be available soon. For those whose children are moving on to school, this will be an opportunity to discuss your child's Transition Report and those with 2 year olds it will be an opportunity to talk through any recent 2-3 year reports. It will also be a great opportunity to have a face to face chat about how things are going, progress made and any support we feel may be required going forward. If you are unable to make these times, please speak to your key person and re-arrange a mutually beneficial time. We will meet indoors so ask that you follow our system of controls including washing hands, wearing a face covering and keeping a distance.

September Hours

Thank you to all those who have been in touch regarding changing hours in September. I've tried my best to accommodate your requirements, however, we have a really large cohort of children going to school in September '22 and it means that we do not have the flexibility that we usually do at the beginning of term. See below for funding codes and change of hours.

Ofsted

As you will be aware, we are still awaiting our first Ofsted inspection which should have taken place before the Summer Holidays last year. I do not know when they will be coming but I think it will be before the Summer holidays this year. We are preparing ourselves as best we can and will of course let you know as soon as we are given notice that they will be visiting.

Tapestry

Please continue to look at and add to Tapestry. We love seeing your photos and videos and we use these to inform our assessment so it helps us to create a well-rounded view of your child. This half term I will add a couple of videos discussing school readiness, phonics, maths and speaking and listening so do keep an eye out for them on Tapestry.

Thank you for your continued support.

Laura

Home Learning

Superheroes has been one of our main interests all year! We have thought of everything to combine superheroes into our play and learning. Diane recently made some capes with numbers on the backs which is how we have incorporated some maths into our play.

Your home learning is to incorporate number into your everyday play. You could number your toy cars and put them in parking spaces which have corresponding numbers of spots. You could spot numbers on front doors whilst out for walks and bike rides. Play snakes and ladders or other board games which require a dice. You could also talk about how many knives and forks you need to lay the table or how many holes there are in the muffin tin to make cupcakes. Look for patterns and sequences at home and talk about them. Show us what you find out by uploading your photos and videos to Tapestry!

Additional Hours and Funding Codes

If your child will be eligible to receive 2 year or 30 hour funding from September, please make sure that you have applied online and received the funding code in time. This code **MUST** be emailed to Preschool before the end of August '21 so that we can use it to submit your claim.

If you would like to change your child's hours please let us know as soon as possible so that we can amend the register and make sure we are claiming for the correct number of hours. There is a waiting list in place currently.

Fundraising and Volunteering

Volunteers— we are delighted to welcome some new volunteers over the last few weeks.

Fundraising—Thank you for all your support in our fundraising missions. We are working hard at Preschool using the money raised to improve the setting and have a new sand pit, fencing, sail shade, some TLC and painting tasks have been completed, updates to the rooms inside have been underway to name a few. We are working on the chicken coop project and fencing as the next big task.

Social - We will be organising a social meet for all parents, grandparents, carers, volunteers and anyone who would like to be involved in preschool. Look out for dates and location (COVID rules apply).

How You Can Help

We are always looking for new volunteers to help, please contact any of the team to find out how or visit our website. We are still looking for a Fundraising Lead to join the committee —see the website for info.

Dates for your diary:

Parents Meetings— Monday 21st June 9am-11am & Wednesday 23rd June 4.30pm-6.30pm

Graduation (Open to all Graduates) - Monday 12th July

Water Day (For those attending on the day) - Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th July

Last Day of Term—Friday 16th July

Training Days—Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th July & Wednesday 1st, 2nd, 3rd September

Preschool Reopens—Monday 6th September