

Pre-School Post

Hello

The past fortnight has been a time for introducing new activities to the children as part of their curriculum, with library visits to encourage reading and interest in books and stories, As well as active bodies, the children enjoy having their time in school and feel very grown up as they become more confident and familiar with school and the many friendly faces we see.

Our story 'whatever next' has encouraged chats and play linked to rockets and journeys. Children have shared places they have been and with whom. We also have seen a rise in imaginary play which encourages the children to work collaboratively to share ideas, resources, listen and turn take. Some like to lead the play, while others prefer a quieter role in the game; all are normal steps towards creative play.



Our next story focus is The Three little pigs. We will be looking at numbers up to 3 (one of our top ten things to achieve before you turn 3!), patterns in the story as well as the science behind blowing down the houses. We listen to see if children can recall and retell familiar stories as part of this learning.

Kerry Evans

Pre-school Manager



Clothes

As the weather warms up so do, we. Sweatshirts are discarded and other layers too. Please use Half term to re-label clothes where name labels may have faded or washed off. Relocating sweatshirts and belongings can be time consuming. Thank you.

Parent teacher meets

These are going well and we would like to thank those families for their positive feedback, we can see the collaborative working is benefitting those children whose parents support the work and learning steps we are working towards.

We have two dates still remaining to complete these next week.

Diary Dates

Monday 9 th Feb 2:30 – 3:25pm	Parent teacher meet - virtual
Tuesday 10 th Feb 3:15-4:15pm	Parent teacher meet In person
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th Feb	Half term week
Monday 23 rd Feb	Inset day – no school Staff training
Tuesday 24 th Feb	Inset day – no school Staff training

Rainbow Rules

Respect

As part of our rainbow rules, we have been learning about respect: respecting both belongings and others people.

Some of the children have needed reminders this week to look after toys, handling them roughly, treading on them when they are on the floor and generally needing reminding how to respect and look after items even if they don't belong to them.

Respecting our peers and adults, talking to them in a friendly manner, communicating needs and preferences in appropriate ways. Its ok, to have different views and ideas in play but not to articulate these in an unkind way. Listening to others is part of showing respect.

Let's talk pants! Part 2 of our toileting series.



Skills needed

So, you've decided to begin the toilet training, you need to ensure you have a potty close by, or spend a few days at home initially to promote success. Have lots of cotton pants ready. These are cheap to buy in multi packs in supermarkets, you will need **plenty** of spares (no reverting back to nappies)

Some children will indicate they are going by standing still, hiding or wiggling. Take regularly (20-30 minute intervals) to try even for a surprise wee.

When in the bathroom to ensure success it's best to quickly support the pulling down of clothes and assisting with getting onto the toilet. Once mastered they can then begin this themselves. When they have finished, getting your child to attempt **wiping even just to pull the toilet paper off and wipe is a good start** to their self help then as adults we can support to ensure they are fully clean.

Children need to be attempting to pull their own clothes up – this is why leggings and easy up/down clothes are best. They must learn to do this fundamental dressing skill and once they achieve getting to the toilet **in time, they need to do all up and down of clothes**. Use the same language consistency helps children remember the patterns and sequence of actions "Pants down, sit on toilet" "Wipe, flush, pull pants up, wash hands" Its important to practice good hygiene as well.

Boys need extra reminders to ensure they push willies down in the toilet to aim for the water. Ping pong balls are often recommended as a target. (Don't worry they pop back up even after a flush) **Hands on the seat help to steady children even with inserts, potties or small seats like in pre-school holding on helps them gain special**

awareness of their body and also stability.



Poo accidents – number 2's often comes later, if your child has a poo in pants when you support changing, tip the contents of the pants into the toilet. This is to demonstrate it's where it belongs. We know it can be messy but try not to not overreact and save your reactions for celebrating when they get it right.



Car journeys out and about

Leaving the house is often the next step in their new skills but brings concerns for parents. Make sure to have a potty in the car and a bag with plenty of spares.

Again, before you leave the house, make sure you've tried a trip to the bathroom and don't leave it too long to try again.



Night time routines

Once children are free of nappies during the day its recommended to soon do the night time.

Monitor drinks later in the day, ensuring they have stopped big drinks at least an hour before bed.

Stick to good bed time routines with consistency and add toileting as part of this regular schedule.

Children should not be taking drinks to bed. Children should be totally toilet trained by the time they start school (age 5) unless there is a medical or additional need.

For further support or information <https://eric.org.uk/potty-training/>