Newsletter

Welcome back to a new academic year at Hatch Warren Under Fives. Our new children have settled in amazingly well and our returning children have all grown so much over the holidays, it's lovely to see everyone. Here's our first news of the term – please also take note of our housekeeping section that contains some important and useful information.

Welcome

It's great to see the children again and lovely to hear about their summer adventures. We have lots of new children who have settled brilliantly into preschool in the first week. We've had lots of happy faces!

Settling in

The start of a brand new term can be a difficult time for young children and the first few weeks of settling into a new environment is a time of crucial importance to a child's later happiness within a setting. All children are individuals, and while some children will adjust fairly easily and quickly to a new environment and new routines, others will take longer to feel comfortable and secure. At Hatch Warren Under Fives we work hard to ensure that all children settle happily – but if you have any concerns, please come in and talk to us, we're here to help!

Tapestry

Your child's week at Hatch Warren Under Fives is documented on a system called Tapestry. Each week we will post lots of pictures on Tapestry so that you are able to see our week in pictures. We also record any individual wow moments and some key observations throughout the year. You should have received an email with login details, so please log in and have a look. If you have any trouble logging in, please let us know.
We will be allocating key carers over the next week or so, and will let you know which staff member has been allocated as your child's key carer.

In the Moment Planning

At Hatch Warren Under Fives we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, where children learn through games and play. We use "in the moment' planning, this involves observing the children when they are deeply engaged in playing and seizing the moment when children show an interest in something by immediately supporting their next steps at that precise moment. We follow a core curriculum and then engage with the children to teach next steps and extend their thinking. If you would like more information about our planning and curriculum, please feel free to chat with us.

January Sessions

Session request forms for January will be sent out in a few weeks time. If you would like additional sessions, please return these by the deadline stated on the letter. As always, we will do our very best to accommodate all requests, but we cannot guarantee first choices of days and sessions.

AGM – NEW COMMITTEE ROLES AVAILABLE!

Our preschool AGM will take place on 20th November – full details will be emailed out soon. Your attendance at the AGM is very important, so please save the date. **Very importantly, we are on the lookout for volunteers to join our fabulous preschool committee**. If you could spare a little time to get involved with your preschool committee, please register your interest with Siobhan.

Wellies

We access the garden in all weathers, and the children love puddles when it rains! Please send your child with (named) wellies and raincoats in wet or rainy weather.

Please Label Belongings
It's very hard to keep track of all of the children's belongings, so please label everything! We have a number of children with identical water bottles and a few matching lunch boxes. Please also label all clothes, bags, coats, water bottles, lunch boxes etc.

Toys from Home
Please do not bring in toys from home. Toys can get lost of broken in preschool which can be very upsetting for the children. If your child has a comforter that you would like them to have, please pack it in your child's bag and we will get it out as and when needed.

Calpol/Nurofen
Please keep your child at home if they have had Calpol or Nurofen within the last 24 hours. Calpol can mask an illness and we would like to prevent the spread of illness within preschool.

Snack Donations
We provide morning and afternoon snack at preschool. Although we don't charge a set fee for Children's snack, we welcome any voluntary contributions to help with the ever-increasing cost of snack. There is a snack donation pot outside the Butterflies room, donations are completely voluntary but if you are able to make a small weekly or termly cash contribution into the snack pot we would be very grateful. We would suggest a guide amount of 50p - £1 each week.

Emails
You should now be receiving emails from us. Siobhan will send any important news from the manager's account preschoolmail@aol.com, and any general information will be sent from our admin account hwu5preschool@aol.com - if you are not receiving any emails please let us know.

Personal Details Updates
If there has been any changes to any personal details – such as change of address, change of emergency contact numbers, any new allergies or medical details etc, please email hwu5preschool@aol.com and let us know so that we can update our records.

House Keeping

NO NUTS in lunchboxes, NO POPCORN in lunchboxes & PLEASE SLICE GRAPES
We have children in preschool with **severe allergies** to nuts and traces of nuts. We are a completely **nut-free** preschool so please don't include nuts, or nut-based products (Including chocolate spread) in packed lunches. Please **DO NOT PACK POPCORN**, this is a choking hazard and always **SLICE GRAPES AND MINI SAUSAGES** - whole grapes are a serious choking hazard to preschoolers, please slice lengthways.

30 hours funding
If you have a code to claim 30 hours childcare or two year funding, please remember to keep your account up to date. To keep your government funding active, you need to check your details are up to date every 3 months. Go to gov.uk/childcareaccount.

Asthma Inhalers
If your child has asthma and has been prescribed an inhaler, please ensure you bring an inhaler and spacer into preschool with your child. Please do not leave these in bags – please hand to a member of staff.

Easy Clothing!
At HWU5s we encourage children to practice skills which make them independent, such as taking themselves to the toilet and taking off and putting on outdoor clothes (great preparation for school, especially for PE lessons!). Please could you dress your child in "easy clothing" for preschool to help them manage these tasks. Please could we ask that you label all of your children's clothing and bags.

Accidents Outside of Preschool
Please inform us at the start of your child's session if they have had an accident at home. It is helpful for us to know of a pre-existing injury just in case we are unsure if it happened whilst at preschool.

Quarantine Reminder for Sickness and Diarrhoea
Just a little reminder that if your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea they should not return to preschool until they have had at least 48 hours clear. This will help prevent the spread of the virus and also help protect staff from illness.

Absence
Please always give us a quick call to notify us if your child is absent on 01256 322788. It's important that we keep our registers up to date.

Prescribed Medication
Please speak to staff to ensure full details are given and recorded should your child require medication to be administered.

Medications in Bags
If your child brings any form of medication into preschool including Vaseline, lip salve, anti bacterial hand gel, please could you hand it to a member of staff and not leave in the children's bags. Thank you.

Pre-loved Uniform
Lisa has a selection of pre-loved uniform items for sale. All proceeds from pre-loved uniform sales go towards our preschool's fundraising. Please see Lisa if you are interested in taking a look.

Help Raise Funds for our Preschool
As you know our preschool is a charity, so fund raising is vitally important to us - it helps us update and add to our toys and resources for the children. There are easy ways to help us raise some much needed additional funds - you could be helping us raise money each time you shop online...
You can raise valuable funds for our preschool when shopping online with many other retailers such as John Lewis, Sainsburys, Argos, M&S and many more… Just by registering with easyfundraising.
Easyfundraising is the UK's biggest charity shopping fundraising site. It's simple to use and it doesn't cost you anything! You could help our preschool so much, just by logging in to easyfundraising and going shopping!
- https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hatchwarrenu5s/
Once you've registered - perhaps you could spread the word to family and friends to help us raise more!

Stay & Play with your child
Parents are always welcome to stay and play at preschool sessions – just let a member of staff know that you're staying and follow the safeguarding procedures that you'll find when you sign in the visitor's book.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 27th Oct -Friday 31st Oct	Preschool closed. HALF TERM.
Monday 3rd November	Return to preschool
Thursday 20th November	AGM – @ Kempshott Under Fives Preschool
Wednesday 17th December	Last preschool sessions
Thursday 18th December	Christmas party – all children (AM)
Friday 19th Dec – Friday 2nd January	Preschool closed. CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Monday 5th January	Return to preschool for new term

Full term dates are listed on our calendar, which you can view on our website here:
https://hatchwarren.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk/diary/list/

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