Kempshott Under Fives

Newsletter

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

Welcome

A big welcome to everyone. It's great to see the children again and lovely to hear about their summer adventures. Our new children have settled brilliantly into preschool. Lots of happy faces!
We are very excited to welcome our new Manager, Vonny, too!

Settling in

The start of a brand-new term can be difficult 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. At Kempshott Under Fives we work hard to ensure that all children settle happily. Some children adjust fairly easily and quickly to a new environment and new routines, others will take longer to feel comfortable and secure. If you have any concerns, please come in and talk to us, we're here to help!

Tapestry

Your child's week at Kempshott 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.

Accident / Incident forms

All accident and incident forms are now on Tapestry. You will get a notification prompting you to look at the forms. Please ensure you login to Tapestry and sign all accident and incident forms.

In the Moment Planning

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.

Consent forms

You have all been sent permission forms by email. Please can you ensure you have updated us with all of your current consents. As you know, we post pictures every week on Tapestry in our closed preschool-only group, but we are also intending to use social media and Facebook more this year to raise awareness of our preschool and show local families what we have to offer. If it is easier to collect a paper copy to complete, we will have copies available in preschool next week.

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 – Save the date!
Our preschool AGM will take place on Monday 9th November at 7pm, full details will be emailed out soon. Your attendance at the AGM is very important, so please save the date and come along and support your preschool.

New Committee Roles Available
Very importantly, we are on the lookout for volunteers to join our fabulous preschool committee – we are urgently in need of a Treasurer. If you could spare a little time to get involved with your preschool committee, please register your interest with Vonny. New committee members will be voted in at the AGM.

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/consumables fees
We provide morning and afternoon snack at preschool, there is small consumables charge that goes towards the cost of snack, resources and extra activities that we organise outside of the EYFS curriculum. Charges are £1 for children doing up to ten hours, £2 for 10-20 hours and £3 for 20-30 hours.
All funded and part funded children will automatically be opted in for consumable charges which are charged in a termly invoice, however if you wish to opt out please contact Julie on farebrotherjulie@gmail.com or talk to the manager at the setting.

Nappies & wipes
If your child is in nappies, please ensure you pack enough spare nappies, wipes and nappy sacks in their bag. Preschool does not provide nappies and wipes.

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..

Healthy Eating
We promote healthy eating for our children at Kempshott Under Fives – please could you support this by packing healthy options for your child in their lunchbox. Healthy options could include breadsticks, sugar free jelly, fromage frais and malt loaf. Little tubs of vegetables sticks and/or cubed fruit are also great lunchbox choices. **Please remember to pack spoons for yoghurts and a drink or water bottle.**

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.

Wellies and waterproofs

Please could you always send your child with (named) wellies and waterproofs! We use the garden whatever the weather, and we have lots of water play all year round too. Unfortunately we cannot store any personal items or clothes at preschool.

Easy clothing!

At KU5s 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 encourage this at home and also dress your child in "easy clothing" for preschool to help them manage these tasks. Belts on trousers can be very frustrating so elasticated waists are preferable, as are Velcro straps or pull on shoes and boots.

Accidents Outside of Preschool

Please inform us at the start of your child's sessions 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.

30 hours funding

If you are claiming 30 hours childcare, please remember to keep your account up to date. To keep your 30 hours funding, you need to check your details are up to date every 3 months. Go to gov.uk/childcareaccount .

Prescribed Medication

Please speak to a member of staff to ensure full details are given and recorded should your child require medication to be administered.

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 a couple of 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 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!

Dates for your Diary

Monday 26th Oct -Friday 30th Oct	Preschool closed. HALF TERM.
Monday 2nd November	Return to preschool
Monday 9th November	AGM – @ Hatch Warren Under Fives Preschool
Tuesday 15th December	Last preschool sessions
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas party – all children (AM)
Thursday 17th Dec – Friday 1st January	Preschool closed. CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Monday 4th 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/