

DONKEY FIELD NEWS



This half term is always one of our busiest with lots of fun and excitement. We will be learning about a variety of festivals, winter and doing lots of Christmas related activities. Our theme of Winter will then carry on into January and then we will be moving on to learning about space.

If you have not joined our Facebook group yet, then please do as we use this to provide information and reminders to the families.

Term Dates

Term Finishes 15th December 2023

Half Term Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October 2023
(Inclusive)

Term Begins Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Term Finishes Thursday 28th March 2024

Half Term Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024
(Inclusive)

Term Begins Monday 15th April 2024

Term Finishes Friday 12th July 2024

Half Term Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024 (Inclusive)

Next Inset Session - Monday 13th November 2023, AM Session,
pre-school will be open from 12:15pm.

Clothing

At Donkey Field the children go out no matter the weather, so please could children come to the pre-school with clothing appropriate for the weather. Sun hats if it is sunny. Coats, scarves, gloves and wellies if it is cold and wet.

Also please could we request that all children are provided with a spare change of clothes in their bag. If your child is currently toilet training, then please provide several changes of clothes.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 26th November 2023 - Christmas Market 1pm to 4pm, this will be held at The Haven Centre. Please make sure you pre book your visit to see Santa to save disappointment.

Friday 8th December 2023 - Donkey Field Christmas Church Service, 1:30pm. More details to follow.

Tuesday 23rd January 2024 - AGM, 7:30pm at The Haven Centre



Labelling Property

Please could we request that all clothing, bags, water bottles and lunchboxes are labelled. Also could bags be labelled on the outside, so that we do not have to look inside every bag to find the correct one.

There are different sites where personalised labels can be purchased, or names can just be written on with marker pens.

Bags

We would like to make a polite request that children come to Donkey Field with an appropriate sized backpack for their belongings. We have very limited space for storing the children's bags, so if children have really big bags, they do not all fit on the pegs.



Drink Cans

As a fundraising event, Donkey Field will be collecting empty drink cans, which will be recycled for money. If you have any, please bring them to the pre-school and place in the black bin next to the pre-school.



Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone that donated to our Christmas raffle, our lovely hampers have been made up ready for the raffle to be drawn.

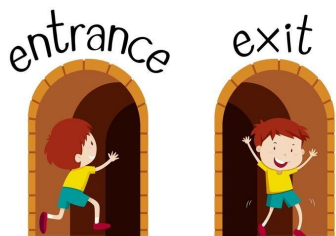
Tickets are still available for the raffle, if you have not received any or would like to purchase more then please ask at the pre-school. Tickets will also be on sale at the Christmas Market.

The raffle will be drawn on the 26th November 2023 at the end of the Christmas Market, winners will be contacted and the winning numbers will be put up on our Facebook Page and Parents WhatsApp group.

Drop Off and Pick Up

We must request that all children are dropped off and collected from the main Donkey Field door.

We understand that when the weather is miserable it isn't nice to have to wait around in it. However, the school constantly have people coming in and out, so for safety reasons, they have requested that we do not use the school entrance for parents and children.



Nappies

If your child still attends the pre-school in a nappy, we must request that you provide the nappies, wipes and nappy sacks. As a charity this can become an unexpected expense, if we are having to provide these for the children.

Also we understand that it is not pleasant having the nappies returned to you in your child's bag. However, we do not have the facility to dispose of the nappies appropriately and safely. If you wish to provide a stronger/separate bag for nappies to be placed into, instead of your child's main bag, then please just let us know.



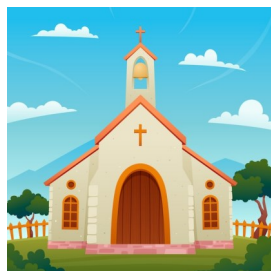
Thank you



Family Church

All Saints Church hold a family church on the 4th Sunday of every month. They are currently looking for volunteers to help run the sessions. If you are interested in this, then please contact the Vicar.

<https://www.allsaintscrawleydown.org/>



School Starters 2024

Please remember for children due to start school in September 2024, the application deadline is the 15th January 2024. If you would like any support or advice, then please do not hesitate in contacting us.

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-places/apply/starting-school-places/>



Independence

At the pre-school we are trying to encourage and support the children with their independence, we are regularly practicing taking off our shoes and socks, then putting them back on again. We are also support the children with learning to put on their own coats and trying to do them up. We would really appreciate it, if you could continue to encourage this with your children at home.



Here is a link to a video that demonstrates the coat technique that we teach the children.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3F7x2ad5upl>



Useful Links

2 Year Old Funding - <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-2-year-olds>

30 Hours Funding - <https://www.gov.uk/apply-30-hours-free-childcare>

Tax Free Childcare - <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Integrated Front Door - <https://www.westsussexscp.org.uk/parents-carers>

Danny Go - <https://www.youtube.com/@DannyGo>

East Grinstead Food Bank - <https://eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk/>

Let's Go Potty (Potty Training Support) - <https://eric.org.uk/potty-training/>

Dummies and Speech - <https://www.nurseryworld.co.uk/features/article/speech-in-the-clear>

