

DONKEY FIELD NEWS



Welcome to everyone old and new, we are so proud of all our children they have settled into the pre-school so well after the Christmas break. This half term we will be continuing to learn about winter, weather and then moving on to the topic Space. We also have a range of festivals that we will be learning about and celebrating.

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 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)



Labelling Property

Please could we request that all clothing, bags, water bottles and lunch-boxes 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.

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

Tuesday 23rd January 2024 - AGM, 7:30pm at The Haven Centre. We would love to see as many people there as possible.

Tuesday 16th July 2024 - School Leavers Party - Details will be sent out closer to the date.

Nut Free Setting

We must remind families that we are a nut free setting, this means children must not have items in their lunchboxes that contain any nuts.



New Funding

There has been some confusion over the new funding that the government is introducing. Although the portal to apply for the 2 year old funding is open now. The actual funding does not commence until April 2024. Full information about the new funding can be found here:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/childcare-and-early-education/childcare-options-and-funding/free-childcare-for-2-year-olds/>

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.



Fee Increase

We have been reviewing our fees and from the 1st April 2024, our hourly rate will be increasing to £7.26.

If you have any questions about the increase, or any concerns about paying then please do not hesitate in contacting Coral.



Drop Off and Pick Up

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

We must request that children stay within the Donkey Field queue area while waiting to come in, please do not allow them to run around near the car park, the shed or around near the clothes bin.

The school has deliveries coming and going at all times, so for everyone's safety, children can not be running around.

Thank You



Website

Our new website is now up and running, information about the pre-school can be found on the website.

All our term dates are also available on the website, these include all the inset sessions.

<https://www.donkeyfield.co.uk/>



Dogs

We must request that no dogs are brought on to the school site at drop off or collection, this is a rule from the school that we must adhere to.

Thank you



Trustees and Committee Members

As a charity pre-school we need our 4 main trustees to keep the pre-school running, we also rely heavily on our fundraising committee to help us raise funds, so that the pre-school can continue to run and supply the children with amazing experiences. If you would be interested in being one of our officers or joining the fundraising committee then please do speak to us at the pre-school. Also if your able to attend the AGM you will be able to gather more information then.

Thank you to all our current trustees and committee members for the amazing work that they do for the pre-school.



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>

