



June/ July Newsletter

Summer is here! All the lovely sunshine and rain has meant that our fruit and vegetable garden has flourished this year and we have been enjoying caring for, picking and 'most of all' eating our spinach, strawberries and radish. We are still awaiting the carrots, apples, plums, peas and tomatoes. All the children have now experienced the 'Farm to Fork' initiative from Tesco. Janice and Lesley (from Tesco, Middlewich) brought fruit and vegetables, pitta and dips for us all to taste and then challenged us to 'Eat a Rainbow' with our families, have you had a go yet?

Staff news - We regret to inform you that Jo Holttum left Holmes Chapel Community Preschool on 17th June 2016. We wish her all the best for the future.

Parents evening - Was a very well attended event. From your comments we know that it was found to be enjoyable and informative to discuss your child's progress, 'next steps' and interests, thank you! I would also like to thank all the parents that took the time to complete our feedback questionnaire. After collating your replies it is great to hear that you and your children find our preschool to be an environment where they can 'thrive and grow with positive experiences'. I have also noted your valuable suggestions and will be implementing these into routine throughout the term.

Phonics update - Rebekah Thomas (phonics lead) has attended sessions within reception and year 1, to share 'best practice for delivering phonics to our Early Years Children. She also invited the reception teachers across to preschool to observe our Adult Guided phonics sessions. We believe that this will provide good transition for preschool to primary for all of our children. Mrs Booth and Mrs Gresty commented that our activity was 'outstanding' and had many positive comments.

Tapestry update - We have received a very kind donation of six 'top of the range' tablets and keyboards from Barclays for us to use to provide online Learning Journals for all of our children. We are now at the 'research stage' into the best software to use and will be trialing some during the summer holidays. The children created a lovely thank you card to show our appreciation.

P.E. Sessions for school leavers - To aid with transition to primary school we will be providing P.E. sessions for all of our school leavers. Please bring a named bag to leave on your child's peg with a t-shirt, shorts and trainers or pumps. We will be practicing getting undressed, putting our clothes in a safe place (and not inside out) and getting dressed again.

All excellent skills for P.E. at 'big school'! We will also be fulfilling some of our EYFS statements in Physical development, self care and moving and handling.

P.E. Session dates are:

Monday 4th July (pm) - An obstacle course

Thursday 7th July (pm) - Races

Tuesday 12th July (pm) - Ball skills

Friday 15th July (pm) - Yoga

We will also hopefully be able to watch the Primary school sports day in the afternoon of 7th July. If you wish to collect your child from preschool for you all to watch a sibling compete please let a staff member know.

Polite reminder - Don't forget to check your child's post wallet in the reception area for important letters, news, bills etc.

Please remember to apply sun cream to your children before you come to preschool, for those children that attend all day we will re-apply it at lunchtime. Don't forget your hats! (with names in please)

EYFS for parents - Have you seen ...?



In March 2015, the Department for Education launched the **What to Expect, When? guide** to help you as a parent/carer find out more about how your child is learning and developing during their first five years, in relation to the EYFS. You can find it using the following link:

<http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/what-to-expect-when/>

Thank you! - For all your kind donations of logs and stones. We have now created a maths area for outside exploration with stones painted with numerals and 'dice' pattern dots, maths shape-sticks, stacking logs of various lengths, large weighing scales and a range of natural resources to experiment with shapes, space and measuring.

A very big thank you to all that brought and baked cakes for our sale it was a huge success, raising over £100!!

Safeguarding news -

We will focus on a different aspect of Safeguarding in each subsequent newsletter. This will provide support all our families and allow us to share important information and legislation that will help to keep you and your children safe.

This time we would like to introduce you to the website www.parentsprotect.co.uk recommended by Cheshire East Safeguarding team to inform parents and carers on how to keep children safe from sexual abuse.

Health and Safety - Did you know..?



CATCH is a free health app aimed at parents and carers of children aged 0-5 who live in Cheshire East.

The app aims to give you the confidence to know when your child needs medical treatment or when self-care would be more appropriate.

CATCH stands for "Common Approach To Children's Health", which encapsulates the joined-up approach to care that we have adopted in Cheshire East. In the NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG area, this takes the form of Caring Together and in the NHS South Cheshire CCG area, it's called Connecting Care. The website can be found here www.catchapp.co.uk

Dates for your diary

14th June 2016 - Mrs Vernon will be visiting her new reception class in the morning

21st June 2016 - Mrs Flint will be visiting her new reception class in the morning

24th June 2016 - Mrs Gresty and Mrs Booth will be visiting their new reception classes in the morning

3rd July 2016 - Holmes Chapel Village Fair, at the Victoria Club 12 to 5pm, come and visit our stall and decorate a gingerbread man.

13th July 2016 - Firestation visit for our 2016 school leavers (you all should have received a letter, please send in your reply slips)

16th July 2016 - Summer disco, all welcome, 2 to 4pm at the Victoria Club

19th July 2016 - Graduation ceremony, at preschool, 2.15pm to 3pm

We will close for the Summer holidays on Tuesday 19th July 2016 and will re-open on Monday 5th September 2016 for the Autumn term.

Don't forget that you can find us on Facebook and our website 'www.hccp.org.uk',

Thank you