



## October Newsletter 2017

We have had a busy few weeks at pre-school with home visits, new children settling in, Emma Phillips leaving and lots of learning and fun occurring too! We hope you feel your child has settled into the routines of coming to pre-school now and you, as a parent, are beginning to feel you know our faces and the routines of pre-school too. Please do speak to your child's key person if you have any concerns or queries - we are here to make your child and you feel as happy as possible with their journey through pre-school.

Rebekah Rumsby has taken over the Manager playleader role (which Emma Phillips had been) and Louise Dimery will be supporting her as Deputy Playleader. We will be sending a questionnaire home in the next few weeks about your opinions or ideas for how things are done/could be done at pre-school and welcome any feedback.

**Planning and Activities** Over the next few weeks at pre-school we will be focusing on following the children's interests and fascinations, plus giving them different experiences that will enhance their learning and development. We all enjoyed Apple Day (many thanks to those of you who donated apples!), and are looking forward to our Family Woodland Walk (see date below), introducing the festival of Divali, and celebrating the season of Autumn and its associated experiences. Please check our parent's noticeboard for ideas of activities you can do at home to help your child's development, linked to what we are doing in the pre-school.

**Hurricane Maria Relief Appeal** - A huge thank you to all of you who donated emergency supplies to this appeal. Sarah Domé wanted us to express her thanks for your support and let you know that all the donated goods are now in London with the Dominican High Commission, ready for delivery to the island asap.

### Dates for your diary:

- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October** - Family Woodland Walk at 9.30 am. All pre-school children and their parents/grandparents/ siblings are invited to come along with us on a walk to Illogan woods to kick leaves, collect autumn treasure and spot wildlife. We will leave the pre-school at 9.30 (ish). All children need to be accompanied by an adult apart from the children who are usually with us on a Friday morning.
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October** - Tempest photos from 9 -11 am. This will be for Individual photos and also with siblings. If your child does not attend pre-school that day you are still more than welcome to bring your child in but your child must be accompanied by an adult.
- **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October** - Training day for staff. The pre-school will be closed to all children on this day.
- **Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> - Fri 27<sup>th</sup> October** - Half term holiday. The pre-school will be closed this week.
- **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October** - Informal parents evening and Annual General Meeting of the Pre-school, 6 - 7 pm. All parents are invited to come along and have a look at their child's learning journey, have a chat to their key person about how they have settled and find out about the support the committee gives the pre-school.
- **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December** - Family Christmas Evening, 6 - 7pm. More information closer to the time.
- **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec - Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January** - Christmas Holidays. The pre-school will be closed.
- **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>, Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018** - Training day for staff. The Pre-school will be closed to the children on these days.
- **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018** - Spring term begins.
- **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March** - Training day for staff. Pre-school will be closed to the children on this day.

**Children's pre-school bags** - Please can we ask that the children's lunch boxes, bags and drink bottles are labelled. We have had a few muddles with bags and bottles going home with the wrong child as the staff learn whose bag belongs to whom!

**Parent Support** - We greatly value the support of our parents at Portreath Pre-school and feel strongly that the relationship we have with you all is of huge benefit to your children and the pre-school as a whole. We will be sending home a questionnaire in the next few weeks about your opinions or ideas for how things are done/could be done at pre-school and welcome any feedback.

Over the next few weeks we will be introducing our 'Bear bags' and 'Busy bags'. These will be for your child to take home and use with you over the week, before returning to pre-school. We will give you more information about them nearer the time.

If any parent/grandparent has a skill/activity/interest, (e.g. Gardening/reading stories/cooking/ instrument playing/ dancing/fitness etc.), they would like to come in to pre-school to share with the children then please speak to any of the staff.

**Thank you for your continuing support from everyone at Portreath Pre-School!**