

BOLFORD STREET HALL, BOLFORD STREET, THAXTED, CM6 2PY

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Monday 16 April to Friday 25 May 2018 – Spring Half Term

We hope you had a lovely break...all back refreshed and ready to go for the next 6 weeks.

Lots of committee information to tell you:

We had our AGM in March, led by our Chairperson, Kath Shanks, and the committee, who have done a brilliant job yet again. Some of our ladies are leaving the committee in July, so a big thank you to Veronika, Cally, Maria, Charlotte, Sophie and Kendall (more about Kendall later!), the Preschool is so grateful to them for giving up their time and energy.

Next years committee currently comprises of Kath (who is continuing to stay on as Chair despite not having children at preschool), Emma, Ellen and Sue (Treasurer), so we are desperately looking for more committee members as this is not enough to manage a busy committee. Please let us know if you would like to join, or have a chat if you have any questions.

We would also like to thank our Accounts lady, Ann, who continues to work so hard for the preschool, ever professional and dedicated.

The last committee event was the Treasure Hunt, which I hear was enjoyable and blessed by the weather, and managed to raise an outstanding amount of £190.45.

The committee are now busy preparing the Car Boot Sale, Sunday 8 July, at the Recreation Ground. Booking Forms will be available if you would like a pitch. Last year we had about 25 pitches booked and people travelled from afar, so this is a popular event.

Ofsted: We had our Ofsted Inspection on Wednesday 21 March and are pleased to announce a Good result. The report is on the entrance table if you wish to read it, or available to download from the Ofsted website, or on our own website.

New Staff: We are really pleased to welcome Kendall to our team, starting just before Easter, and she is looking to start her Early Years training course in September. Some of you may already know Kendall, and she has been on the Committee for a few years.

Suitable clothing: As the weather improves we are less likely to need wellies, but just keep an eye on the weather forecast for that day, if it has been raining then they will need wellies (only for children that stay for lunch). You will probably still need a jacket or coat for outdoor play. Children should wear covered toe shoes - sandals/flip-flops/crocs all cause problems for children – they are difficult to run in, cause blisters, fall off – and hence are all best avoided at preschool.

Sun-Cream: During hot/sunny weather your child will need a named sun-hat and you will need to apply sun-cream if you think your child needs it. We do not routinely put sun-cream on children, only if we are out for an extended period of time and/or if we think certain children need it. We use Calypso Sun lotion factor 20 – you must let us know if this is unsuitable for your child.

More info overleaf:

Term Dates for 2018:
Monday 16 April – Friday 25 May (6 weeks) – Spring
Monday 7 May – Bank Holiday
Monday 4 June – Friday 20 July (7 weeks) - Summer

Can we please remind you if your child has a stomach bug and has been sick or had diarrhoea they need to be kept off preschool for 48 hours.

This is the season for chicken-pox, so look out for spots, usually starting on the torso.

If you are going to be late or absent we would appreciate a quick phone call.

If your child is ill please also let us know, especially if they have an infection/contagious disease.

Don't forget to let us know immediately if your contact details change – particularly mobile or emergency contact details.

Packed lunch reminders:

- No nuts eg peanut butter, Nutella
- Please cut grapes, cherry tomatoes etc in half long-ways (this is because whole grapes get stuck in a child's throat and are a choking hazard)
- As the weather warms up an ice-pack is a necessity to keep food chilled

Please note you can always speak to a member of staff, or your child's key-person if you have a question or a problem, to update your child's progress, or to see your child's Learning Journey.

Many thanks from all the Staff – Karen, Jo, Rachel, Peta, Louise, Claire & Kendall