



Term 1, 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the start of a brand new school year! We would like to welcome back all the children and families who were with us last year and to extend that welcome to all the new children and families who have joined us this month. We hope that you are starting to feel 'at home' with us already! We are delighted with the way in which all the children have settled in so well.

Buddies

We are introducing a 'buddy system' for new parents. This is a great way to get to know new people and to find out more about Pre-School from a parents' point of view. Please let Annie know by email (manager@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk) if this is something you are interested in.

Birth certificates

If you have just joined us, please could you bring in your child's birth certificate so that we can keep a copy for our records. This is so that we can verify your child's date of birth for funding purposes.

Invoices

These will be sent via email on the first week of each month.

Staff Vacancies

We are in the process of growing our team and are recruiting for a full time Level 3 Assistant to join us. Please spread the word if you know anyone who may be interested. We are looking for very special people!

Tapestry

Hopefully you will now have had the opportunity to access your child's Tapestry account. Please let your keyperson know if you have any questions or issues with this. We would like to encourage you to add your own photos, comments and news so that we can build a joint home/setting journal with you.

Clothing

Our children go outside in all weathers. As the days are beginning to get colder, please provide your child with warm layers, a coat, suitable shoes and wellies (for splashing in puddles). Please could you also ensure that you label your child's clothing – particularly Pre-School T-shirts and jumpers. This will help us to return them to you at the end of the day! Extra T-shirts and jumpers can be purchased at Pre-School.

Eating and drinking

Thank you for supporting us in promoting healthy eating when you pack your child's lunchbox. We always encourage them to eat their sandwiches/ savouries first, followed by fruit and finally any yogurt and treats. Please remember to cut grapes or olives **vertically** to reduce the choking hazard.

We return any uneaten food in the lunch box so that you can see what has been eaten! We also provide snacks and drinks in the morning, so please don't be alarmed if there is lots of food left over! Finally, there is no need to send a drink in with your child as we provide water throughout the day as well as at snack times and lunch.

Medication

Please note, we are only able to give medication that has been prescribed for your child by your GP, dispensed by a pharmacist and in the original packaging with your child's name written on the pharmacy label. We are not authorised to give over the counter medicines.

Parent Feedback

Thank you to everyone who completed the Parent Feedback questionnaires at the end of last term. We received lots of lovely comments. Among the suggestions were a request to make more of our outside space. This is something which the team had already identified and we will be getting a new, larger sandpit in the Autumn half term. We will be working in partnership with Class R on developing the garden further. As ever, we would welcome your suggestions and any offers of help.

Garden tidy up

We will be having a garden tidy session on Saturday 17th November from 9.30 – 11.00. A sign up sheet will be available nearer the date.

Forest School

We aim to start Forest School in Term 2. We will need to get a working party of approximately 5 parents beforehand to ensure that the site is safe and ready. Please speak to Kelly if you would be interested in helping with this. In the meantime, we will begin outdoor learning on the school site. This will give all the children the opportunity to explore a different environment and to practice using our walking rope before we walk out into the village.

Natural materials

Please note we are a NUT FREE setting

We would like to add some more natural resources into the mud kitchen. We would be most grateful if you could bring in any conkers, pine cones and any other interesting natural materials that you gather whilst out on family walks.

Dates for your diary

Friday 2nd November – INSET Day. Pre-School will be closed.

Saturday 17th November 9.30 – 11.00 Garden tidy up

Friday 21st December – Christmas Party

Term dates

Term One Thursday September 6, 2018 - Friday 19 October, 2018

Autumn Half Term Saturday 20 October, 2018 - Sunday 28 October, 2018

Term Two Monday 29 October, 2018 - Tuesday 21 December, 2018

INSET DAY Friday 2 November 2018 PRE-SCHOOL CLOSED

Christmas Holidays Monday 24 December, 2018 – Monday 7 January, 2019

Term Three Tuesday 8 January, 2018 Friday 15 February, 2019

Spring Half Term Saturday 16 February, 2019 - Sunday 24 February, 2019

Term 4 Monday 25 February, 2019 - Friday 5 April 2019

Easter Holidays Saturday 6 April – Monday 22 April 2019

Term 5 Tuesday 23 April 2019 – Friday 24 May 2019

BANK HOLIDAY Monday 6th May 2019

Summer Half Term Saturday 25 May 2019 – Sunday 2nd June 2019

Term 6 Monday 3 June, 2019 - Wednesday 24 July, 2019

INSET Day Monday 8th July 2019 – PRE-SCHOOL CLOSED