



Newsletter

April 2006

Welcome back to the start of the summer term and what promises to be a very busy and fun one. On the 18th April 2005 we opened our doors for the first time with just Eliza and Josie. It seems strange to think that children who are starting with us this term were not born then!

New starters

We welcome Harry, Alexander, Felix and Harriet. I am sure it will not be long before they all settle in.

We also welcome 2 new members of staff. Heather Yeates is joining us on Fridays, an experienced childminder with childcare qualifications. Sindy Coppin is joining us on Thursdays, living in the village she has spent several years working at a Tadley pre school.

We also have regular parent help this term. Taira Macauley, Jean-May's mum, will be working with us on Wednesdays. With experience working in schools she has just registered as a childminder and is studying childcare. Calm and patient, as well as young and energetic, we are really pleased she can help.

I also hope to be able to announce the appointment of a full time qualified Montessorian very soon. I start interviewing candidates this week.

Hats and sunscreen

We are hoping for continued summer weather this term as we plan to do lots of outside activities. Please could children bring a **named** hat and have sun screen so they are protected on such days. If you are unable to put the sun screen on before school, please ensure it is in a named bottle in your child's bag.

Project

Our project this term is 'animals'. We will be breaking this down into smaller topics to concentrate on a specific area. This will start with 'pets' before widening the area to include 'animals around us' including farm animals on the 7th May. After half term we will be looking at 'jungle animals'.

We will be making a 'pet board' where children can put up photos or pictures of their pets. It could also be their grannies or uncles pet for example if they have not one at home. As well as bringing photos children can also bring in their pet to 'show' during our 'circle' time at the end of the morning, unusual pets are welcome too. Advance warning of this would be appreciated!

Full Days

Tuesdays are continuing to be a great success. Antonia our French teacher is full of praise for the children's behaviour, attitude and the progress they have made. These sessions are really great fun with the puppets and songs.

Thursdays have not started yet due to shortage of numbers. I am happy to offer it as soon as there is sufficient interest.

Montessori accreditation

We are still working towards this. I was amazed how quickly the children responded to the few changes in the environment that our Montessori mentor recommended. It is certainly much calmer and the progress made by some of the children last term was quite staggering in all area of development.

Dates for your diaries

May 3rd We are closed as the hall is used as a polling station

May 7th Bank Holiday

May 28th to 1st June inclusive is half term

June 6th Steve Wood our photographer is coming in. He will start at 9.00. Please can as many children come as possible as we are hoping to do a school photograph as well as individuals.

June 13th parent's evening t.b.c.

June '100 steps for Montessori' - more information to follow

July 5th 11.00 to 12.00 Treehouse Theatre are coming to perform with the help of the children 'The Gingerbread Man'. The children will be able to dress up and join in with the music. All children are welcome.

July 20th Our last day of term. There will an end of term party.

Donations welcome

We are always looking for items such as pizza bases (sewing), old greeting cards (sewing and cutting exercises), unwanted bangles for stacking, old envelopes for filling, small boxes and containers for junk modelling so please think of us before discarding. Please remember that there must be **no trace of egg on anything brought into school.**

We welcome visitors, especially those who would like to talk to us about their profession, religion or share a skill they may have. It helps us learn more about the world around us. Let us know if you are happy to come and talk to us.

Contact details

If you would like to talk about your child, have any queries or would like some information I can talk briefly at the beginning of the day, I am always free to talk for longer at the end of the session or can arrange an evening if that is more convenient.

We look forward to a fun and happy term

Marianne and team