



Briary Pre-School

'Together we play learn and achieve'

Greenhill Road West,
Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7RS
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Email: briarypreschool@btconnect.com
Web: <https://www.briarypreschool.co.uk>

Summer Term News

26/04/21

Dear Parents/ Carers

It has been very busy at Briary Pre-School, welcoming back children from lockdown and settling in new children and their families. To keep you informed of what is going on in the Preschool, we aim to send out a newsletter in the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms. This year has been a very challenging time with COVID-19 for children, families and staff. Our children's wellbeing and opportunities to socially interact with others has been affected due to the lockdown and some new children were a little wobbly which is understandable. We as a preschool team are pleased how wonderful the children have overcome and adapted to new hand washing routines and one-way systems and all the guidelines that the government have put in place at these difficult times. We like to keep you informed of what is going on at Preschool. We have a closed Facebook page for families of the children who attend which is updated with news and what we have been doing at pre-school. We will also contact you via email and tapestry. This term we have been focusing on ensuring the children's wellbeing is our priority, supporting friendships, bonding with their key person and routines and boundaries.

ONE WAY SYSTEM- On Arrival and Pick-up

On entry into the grounds of Briary Primary School and Briary Pre-school a face covering must be worn at all times (unless you have a medical exception), and you will need to follow the one-way system as provided which will guide you at the front of the school gates. When dropping off your child, you will be asked to wait outside, and the Manager or Deputy Manager will guide your child into preschool to their key person. At the moment, we are restricting parents/carers into the building because of Government restrictions/ guidelines. You will only be allowed into the preschool, if your child is settling or if you are viewing the setting.

Please use social distancing at all times whilst waiting outside Pre-School.

(We also have a sanitizer station outside for parents) On your child(rens) arrival into preschool, they will have their temperature taken and will be supervised to wash their hands. Their belongings, (bag, lunch box, drink bottle) will also be wiped down with a Milton disinfectant.

CLOSING TIME

The preschool closes at 3.30pm, if you do not want to wait for half an hour you can collect your child at 3.00pm, we will walk them out as usual to the front preschool gate. Unfortunately we are unable to open any earlier than 3pm and parents with siblings at the primary school at this time it may be difficult for your key person to always come out as they will be with the rest of their key group, but if you need to speak to them please let us know. Please let us know in advance to collect early (**so we can get your child ready to go home**), via email @ briarypreschool@btconnect.com or call us on 01227 742050.

OPENING AND CLOSING TIME

Briary Pre-School is open term time only – 38 weeks of the year. Please look at the term dates section to see our closures for staff development days, bank holidays and half terms.

Monday	8:30am – 3:30pm	Thursday	8:30am – 3:30pm
Tuesday	8:30am – 3:30pm	Friday	8:30am – 3:30pm
Wednesday	8:30am – 3:30pm		



TAPESTRY

This is our online learning journey through a piece of educational software called 'Tapestry'. You can access this from home, by logging on at <http://eyli.org/login/> with your secure username and password you will be able to view your child's observations, photographs and even videos from their time in Briary Pre-School. You will receive an email telling you when a new observation or piece of work is available for you to view. This will enable you to follow your child's progress closely and reflect upon achievements with your child. All information is stored on a highly secure server, which is monitored closely. You can also get Tapestry on your phone, which is available on Apple, Android and Amazon Fire Devices; all you need to do is download 'Tapestry' on your phones store device. If you haven't got a Tapestry account, please get in contact with either Carol, Nic or Maria; and we will be able to start you up on Tapestry.



TERM DATES

Below is our Term Dates for 2020-21. This is also available to view on our Briary Pre-School website @ www.briarypreschool.co.uk. **2021-22 Term Dates coming soon.**

September 2020						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2020						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2020						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2020						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Staff Development Days (Pre-school Closed)

Funded Days (Pre-school Open)

Bank Holidays (Pre-school Closed)

Preschool Annual Trip (Pre-school Closed)

We offer funded pre-school education and we are open for 38 weeks of the year (190 days), Term time only from 8.30am-3.30pm. Our lunch club hour (11.30am – 12.30pm) is not offered as part of the funded entitlement and is charged at £5.50 per hour*

*Subject to regular review

SAVE THE DATES!

We are currently putting together plans for our annual summer coach trip to Wingham, we will have coach travel and welcome you all to join us for a fun family day out. We have booked for **Friday 25th June 2021** as restrictions are due to lift on 21st June 2021, more information to follow.



We have also set a date for this year's Graduation Ceremony! – **Tuesday 20th July 2021** and we will be having two ceremonies, a morning celebration for our Honeybee children and an afternoon celebration for our Dragonflies.

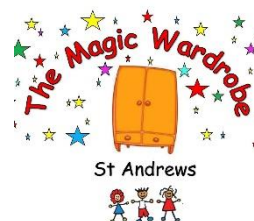
SPONSORED RUN

We have invited our children to take part in a sponsored run to help raise some vital funds for the preschool. They have been initiating running around the cycle track, so we thought it would be good to set a challenge! There challenge was to do 30 laps around the track over the course of a few weeks! Friends and family were asked to sponsor their child's run where they are financially able to or a donation. The money will help with fundraising towards an interactive whiteboard and all children will receive a medal!



MAGIC WARDROBE

Did you know that we are part of the community scheme 'The Magic Wardrobe'? Do you need nearly new and sometimes brand-new clothes for your child? We have a large white box in the lobby area called 'The Magic Wardrobe'. You can donate freshly washed clothing for children under 5 years old in this box, which is collected by the Magic Wardrobe organisers. They then redistribute the clothes to families in Herne Bay, Whitstable and the surrounding areas by the organiser Andrea. Please call Andrea on **077761255221** to arrange a collection of clothes in your child's size or message on the magic wardrobe Facebook site. Collections can be made from **St Andrews Pre-school, Grimshill Road, Whitstable Kent CT5 4LH between 8am- 12pm Monday- Thursday**, free clothing which includes hats, coats and boys and girls clothing.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Just a reminder about symptoms as children have returned to preschool and are mixing again. Young children are building their immunity at this age, and do pick up bugs, this is normal and builds their resistance. With COVID-19 around, we do have to be more cautious about attending preschool or school with infections. If your child has a cold and the discharge is yellow/green, this indicates an infection and we advise they do not attend till it's clear. They may need antibiotics from your GP at this stage to fight the infection. If you are not sure please ask. If your child develops any symptoms of COVID-19 (temperature above 37.8, continuous cough, loss of smell & taste) your advised to book a test and self-isolate until you know the results. The link is below. They can return to preschool if the test is negative or if you have to self-isolated for 10 days. Thank you for your co-operation.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>
<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>



OUR STAFF – MEET THE TEAM!



Carol Smith
Manager and SENCo
Safeguarding Lead



Nicola Wheeler
Deputy Manager
Health & Safety
Officer
Assistant SENCo



Chloe Knight
Early Years
Practitioner- Ladybird
Key Person
Team Leader Student
Mentor



Claire Roche
Early Years
Practitioner- Dragonfly
Key Person



Karen Saunders
Apprentice Early
Years Practitioner-
Honeybees Key
Person



Louise Ridley
Apprentice Early
Years Practitioner-
Caterpillar Key
Person



Maria Wheeler
Office Administrator



Lucia Wells
Business and Finance
Officer



Katie Packman
SEND Support/Cover
Staff



Pam Chantler
SEND Support/Cover
Staff



Carol Antink
Cover Staff

SPRING

The weather is beginning to change, getting warmer over the months to come. Please can we ask that all children bring hats and sun cream with their names labelled (so we can return them to the right child), and wear light clothing as we move into the summer. Please provide your child with sun cream and put their name on it, which we will apply each day. We are unable to share sun creams due to allergies. Thank you 😊



HAS YOUR CHILD HAD A BAD NIGHT?

Please can you inform Carol or Nicola at drop off if there are any changes that could affect your child's wellbeing throughout the day, so we can write it in the day book, so all staff are aware, for example an unsettled night, a new family event.

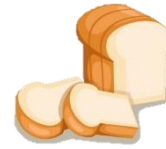


SNACK

Thank you for your continued snack donations, we really appreciate it.

As a preschool we like to invite you to make donations of snack instead of providing individual snacks from home. This is because we feel that children benefit from trying new foods and as a Food Champion setting we are trying to limit the sugar intake of sugary snacks. All fruit donated will be washed and packets wiped before use. As a charity, we are appealing for the following donations:

Bananas, apples, oranges, melon, plums, grapes, strawberries, raisins or any healthy fruit. Blocks of cheese, butter, sugar free jam, bread, crumpets, bagels, breadsticks and crackers. We will have a basket on the table every day outside the front, for you to make your donations. You may wish to contribute once a week, for example to provide a loaf of bread or bag of apples. As a charity your donations are much appreciated, and the children love to talk about what they have bought in to share. All snack food will be prepared and placed under a cover to avoid contamination during snack. Children will have the opportunity to cut their portion or butter their toast.



LUNCH CLUB & BELONGINGS

Please ensure all lunchboxes and drink bottles are labelled with your child's name on. (so we can return them to you) and please be aware; if your child(ren) has grapes in their lunch box, please make sure you cut them up (length ways) as this could cause a choking hazard. Grapes are the third-most common cause food-related choking deaths after hot dogs and sweets. Thank you 😊

Please label all of your child's belongings, such as coats, jackets, jumpers, scarfs, hats, gloves, lunch boxes and bottles so we can return them at the end of the day and so it doesn't get lost and confused with other children's.



FACEBOOK

We have a Facebook group for parents. In this group we post preschool updates, such as; resources needed, events happening etc (keeping you up to date). If you would like to join, search "Briary Pre-School" and request to join the group which will then be approved by one of our admins. Below is a picture of our logo, to help you find the page.



Briary Pre-School

Private group



WEBSITE

This is Briary Pre-School's website; www.briarypreschool.co.uk. Don't forget to 'bookmark' our website in your browsing favourites. On this website, we update you with latest information such as; about us, important parent information, COVID-19 and our local offer. If you need any information, most of it will be updated on our website or our Facebook page. Please contact us if the information that you need is not on there.

Thank you 😊

TEMPEST PHOTO DAY!

We are hoping to have a photo morning for your child on **Friday 21st May 2021 @ 9:00am**. They will be taking individual photographs of the children. If your child has their photo taken, you will receive a proof for you to make orders from. If your child does not attend on this day, you are more than welcome to bring your child in between 9:00am – 11:00am to have their photo taken. We are currently waiting for confirmation due to lockdown. As soon as we know, we will let you know.

Many Thanks



THANK YOU 😊