



Registered Charity Number 1155711  
0779 355 4340

May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

I am sure you will agree that this half term has flown by!

We started the summer term by looking at flags and our atlas for St Georges Day. Some of the morning children 'had a go' at copying the English flag and many morning and afternoon children enjoyed creating their own designs.

Ramadan has started and Saira brought in lots of interesting objects and images for the children to look at and explore. Many of our morning children enjoyed making their own prayer beads and many children enjoyed the feel of the soft prayer mat. As part of Ramadan, we have shared stories which reflect values such as sharing and being kind - Sharing a Shell, Rainbow Fish and Elmer.

Zoolab visited our morning children bringing along lots of interesting pets including a Giant African Land Snail, Corn Snake, Tarantula and a very clever rat! We were incredibly impressed by how well the children listened and behaved whilst the Zoolab representative told them lots of amazing facts.

One of our morning children brought in the flag of Norway to mark Norway's National Day. We appreciate it when children and families share celebrations from home, which enhance our curriculum. We took this opportunity to have a look at the map of Europe and to find Norway and the other countries in Europe connected to children at pre-school. Some of the children even 'had a go' at saying some Norwegian words!

Last week, our caterpillars arrived, we cannot believe how big they are already! Many of the morning and afternoon children are fascinated by this and we have taken the opportunity to share The Hungry Caterpillar story using our story sack props. We love this book at pre-school because, alongside teaching children about lifecycles, it provides a fantastic introduction to early maths!

We would be very interested to hear from any parents who would like to come in to talk to the children about occupations. In the past we have enjoyed visits from a police officer, firefighter, doctor, dentist and a teacher. As the children have been particularly interested in builders, we would love a builder or carpenter to visit! Please talk to a member of staff if you feel you would like to come in.

Here are some of the things we have planned for the second half of the summer term:

### **Photographer – Class Photos – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

Please accept our apologies as our photographer was unable to join us as planned for the class photos last week. We have re-arranged this for Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June. The morning photo will be taken at 9.15am and the afternoon photo at 1pm. If your child does not normally come in on a Thursday, they are welcome to join us for the photograph. Details of how to order the class photo will be sent to you the following week. Please place your order quickly, to ensure we get the photos back by the end of term.

### **Messy Play afternoon – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June (afternoon children and parents)**

Our afternoon parents and children are invited to join us on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June from 12.30pm – 2.30pm with your child. All afternoon children are invited, regardless of their normal attendance days. This is an opportunity for you to get “messy” as you join in with some activities with your child!

There will not be a usual Pre-School session on this afternoon and all children should be accompanied by an adult (it doesn't have to be a parent; it can be a grandparent or any other carer) who will engage in activities with them. Pre-School staff are not responsible for the children, so please make sure you or a carer can stay with your child and supervise them!

### **Pizza Express Outing – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June (morning children)**

This is a lovely outing to our local Pizza Express in Epsom. The children will each make their own pizza, which will be cooked, boxed up and given to them to bring home! Please make sure that your child arrives promptly on this day, and that they have a waterproof coat with them if it is raining! Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to help on the day.

### **Open Afternoons (new starters) Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July or Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July**

If you have a younger child starting in the afternoon sessions in September, please note our open afternoon dates of Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July, from 3.45pm – 5pm. Please confirm which session you would like to come along to, if you haven't done so already.

### **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July – Bocketts Farm Outing Morning Children (no afternoon session on this day)**

Our annual outing to Bocketts Farm will take place on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July. Please note the change of date! We rely on parent volunteer helpers to join us for the outing. More details will follow a little nearer the time.

Parents of children attending afternoon sessions, please note there will not be an afternoon session on this day.

### **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 10.30am – 1pm – Our Last Day of Term!**

There will be a party for all our children and their families from 10.30am - 1pm. There will be a children's entertainer, together with a presentation of certificates to the children who are leaving us to go to infant school. Please bring a picnic rug and picnic, as we will be in the Pre-School garden!

### **Nappies**

If your child wears nappies, please ensure that they arrive at the start of Pre-School in a clean, dry nappy. You are welcome to use the changing table in the Children's Centre toilet before bringing your child in to start their session.

### **Snack Time**

Thank you very much to all our parents for their generous contributions for the children's snack time. We very much appreciate donations of any fresh fruit, bags of raisins, cheese, crackers or other snacks. Thank you!

### **Consumables Wish List**

Thank you again for all the donations of items to Pre-School. This has really helped us over the last term, and we value your support very much. We always welcome donations of white paper napkins and kitchen roll, as we use large quantities of these items at our snack table.

### **Uniform**

For those children staying with us next year, please place an order for T-shirts or sweatshirts if you need more or the larger size. The order forms are in the leaflet rack on the wall in reception. You can pay by BACS transfer, cash or cheque.

If your child is leaving at the end of the summer term, please consider donating any good quality uniform to Pre-School. We can use these as spares when a child gets messy or wet.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing you at the beginning of June!

Kind regards  
St Martin's Pre-School Team