



Holbrook & District Pre-School Playgroup and Cabin Club

NEWSLETTER SUMMER TERM JUNE 2019

A Big Welcome To: Kai, Arthur, Blythe, Charlotte, Violet, Scarlett-Louise, Avia, Wilfred and all their parents.

Events enjoyed so far this term -

We have had 2 students from Holbrook Academy for their work experience with us in March and 2 students from Suffolk One in January.

St. Marys Care Home kindly offered to hold an Easter Egg hunt for the children which was enjoyed by all the children and the residents.

We were lucky to be invited over to the Primary School to see Mr Robinson's tractor and all the children were able to climb inside and sit in the cab and sit in the wheels.

The children and staff have enjoyed some lovely nature walks around the village and across the meadows.

We were invited to St. Marys to see some baby chicks and baby pigmy goats. All the residents and children enjoyed sharing this experience and everyone got to hold a chick and pet a goat.

Miss Matticks invited the older children over to our shared garden on Friday to help them make a bug hotel which was enjoyed by everyone even though the weather was not on our side!

A parent from the Primary School kindly brought over some chicks for us to see that were 12 weeks old and the children enjoyed watching them and stroking them.

Dates for your diary –

Monday 17th June – Father's Day Stay and Play 9am – 10am.

Wednesday 19th June – Pre-school open afternoon for new children 1.30pm – 3pm.

Friday 5th July – Visit to Jimmy's Farm. Pre-school closed.

Saturday 6th July – Holbrook Primary School Fete Holbrook Pre-school will be holding a toy and sweet stall.

Thursday 11th July – One Man and his Pan Pop-Up Restaurant 4 course meal. 7 tickets left at £27.50. Book now!

Term Dates -

Our last day of term for grant funded children is Friday 19th July. Monday 22nd will be for children that would like to use their grant funding from the hours owed for the Monday 6th May Bank Holiday and for paying children only. Please email to confirm if your child will be in on Monday 22nd. Tuesday 23rd July will be for paying children only. Please email if you would like to book a place.

Anyone that is not in receipt of funding for Monday's but would still like their child to attend will be invoiced for Monday 22nd July. Tuesday 23rd July will also be a chargeable day. You do not have to bring your child to this day, but we will be open for those that would like to use us for their normal sessions but will be invoiced.

Playgroup/Cabin Club Committee -

Our next meeting is Monday 24th June at 7.15pm in the Swan, Holbrook.

We are a charity run by a Committee. As our children grow and move on to school inevitably we also see our Committee members move on. As such we are always looking for enthusiastic parents and carers who take an interest in the first stages of their children's learning to join our Committee and be a part of running the setting. Without our Committee members the Pre-school cannot run, and your children and the community would lose what we think is a real asset. So please consider if you can spare 2 hours a month to make a difference in your children's learning and your community and join our wonderful committee. Committee members also do not have to pay the £9.00 parent help fee.

Our current Committee members are:

Heather Crosbie-Davis – Chairperson

Matthew Shenton – Secretary (newly appointed)

Clare Lamb – Treasurer

Rachael Vickers – Trustee

Claire Richardson – Trustee

Rebekah Rodwell – Trustee

Nicky Low – Trustee and Nominated Person

Alison Smith – Trustee

Becks Bawley - Trustee

All of our committee members are DBS checked. We are always grateful for new Committee members. We meet once a month during term time at the local pub for about an hour and a half to discuss the running of the setting. Becoming part of the Committee is a brilliant way to support the setting. If you think that you might like to join us then feel free to talk to Heather our Chairperson or Nicky our Pre-school Business Manager. Our meeting dates are put on our white board outside and an email is sent out.

Healthy Eating Initiative -

All staff are proactively promoting healthy eating. We recently purchased a freezer so we are able to store lots of healthy fruit and vegetables and snacks for the children to have. The children have enjoyed coloring in a large monkey and feeding it healthy food so the children can identify what healthy foods are. The children have been given a large selection of chopped vegetables to make arts and crafts with and make pictures. The children have been busy baking and have made oat and raisin biscuits, blueberry muffins, raspberry and apple strudel and savoury egg and ham muffins and also smoothies. At Holiday Club the children have made and enjoyed eating fruit kebabs. We have been tasting celery and then painting and stamping with it. The children have also enjoyed doing a healthy lunch box activity where they are given a selection of food pictures and decided which foods were healthy enough to go into the lunch box by sticking the picture on the paper. The children are supplied with real fruit and vegetables to play with in the play kitchen so they become more familiar with real life objects rather than plastic or wooden items. The children are always offered a healthy snack mid morning and mid afternoon and they particularly enjoyed eating mixed berries with yoghurt last week and also our home grown raddishes.

We have been growing carrots, sweetcorn, raddishes, tomatoes, strawberries and herbs.

We would please ask that you help us to give your child the best start in life whilst they are in our care at Pre-school. Things you can do to help are:

- Providing water to drink in a bottle rather than squashes, juices or bottles of fruit shoot type drinks.
- Limit the amount of treats that your child has in their packed lunch box.
- Please do not send in sweets, lollipops or too many items high in sugar or fat.
- Have a look at the following link for some great lunch box ideas
<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

Information -

Thank you to everyone that helped on our cake stall at the Holbrook Village Fete on Saturday and to those that supplied and purchased cakes. We made £61.50. Thank you to everyone involved.

Jo our Setting Manager has recently renewed her Paediatric First Aid Training and Jenny Abbott will also attend this course at the end of this month to make sure qualifications are up to date.

Danielle our Setting Deputy Manager has recently been enrolled onto an Apprenticeship course at Suffolk New College to upskill and gain her Level 3 Childcare qualification. Danielle attends college on Tuesday's along with Chloe our other Apprentice who is also studying for her Level 3.

Our staff have also recently completed 'Providing a Healthy Food environment in an Early Years Setting' to go in line with our healthy eating initiative which will be ongoing.

We are no longer an 'Egg Free Zone'. We would like your children to enjoy cooking and baking with eggs at Pre-school and they are welcome to bring eggs in their packed lunches in whatever form i.e. scotch eggs, egg sandwiches, pickled eggs. **Please do let us know immediately if your child has an egg allergy.**

Please be prompt when collecting your children from the setting as it helps the smooth running of each session especially at the end of the day when we need to collect school children who attend the After-School Club.

Future Plans and themes –

All our fundraising this year will be to help pay for some AstroTurf that we are having installed during the summer. Unfortunately, due to such high traffic on the grass area outside the grass disappears and turns to mud. Hopefully the AstroTurf will give the children a nicer area to play on.

We have the Dentist visiting us in July to teach the children how to care for their teeth.

Spare Clothes -

Children must have a **NAMED spare change of clothes** in case of accidents or getting wet or dirty during the sessions and nappies if your child wears them. Please make sure items of clothing, shoes, slippers and wellies are clearly labelled to help the sessions run smoothly. Welly boots are still needed as our outside area gets very muddy.

Packed Lunches and Allergies -

As you may be aware we are a **NUT FREE ZONE**, so please ensure your child's packed lunch follows our guidelines to ensure the health and safety of all children attending. NO nuts at all.

Please remember to add a cool pack to your child's lunch box. Please make sure that staff are aware of any other allergies that affect your child. Please make sure that fruit is cut up into smaller pieces, especially grapes due to choking risk.

Fees -

Fees are due at the beginning of each half term. You will find your invoice in your child's tray. Thankyou in advance for prompt payment as this assists us with the smooth running of the setting. We introduced a Late Payment Charge of £50 from 24th February 2014. Any problems/queries regarding fees please contact **Nicky Low the Pre-school Business Manager email: admin@holbrookpreschool.co.uk** Please note that **charges apply for late collection**. Please also remember that your child's session fees are still payable even if they are absent for holiday's and sickness. Online payments can be made please see your invoice for details. Please remember we do not accept cash payments. Cheques will be accepted but please pay online if possible.

Opening Times & Current Prices -

Monday	8:45-11:45	11:45-12:15	12:15-3:15 (All day)
Tuesday	8:45-11:45	11:45-12:15	12:15-3:15 (All day)
Wednesday	8:45-11:45	11:45-12:15	12:15-3:15 (All day)
Thursday	8:45-11:45	11:45-12:15	12:15-3:15 (All day)
Friday	8:45-11:45	11-45-12-15	12:15-3:15 (All day)

Playgroup sessions (3hrs AM or PM) Charged at ** £10.50 over 3 years and** £11.50 2-3 years.

Lunch club is ** £2 per day any age.

If your child is 3 yrs old they are eligible for 15hrs per week funding from the government the term after their third birthday. They could also now be entitled to a further 15 hours per week totalling 30 hours. There is also some funding available for 2yr old children dependant on specific criteria. If

you would like more information on this then please speak to Nicky the Pre-school Business Manager.

Parent/Carer Help Rota -

Please sign up on the rota to help, we require all families to complete one help session per half term. All support is very welcome and this aids the smooth running of the setting and gives you the opportunity to share in your child's fun at their pre-school session. A helper can be a parent, grandparent or carer. If you are unable to help a fee of £9.00 will be added to your next invoice, however if you have a baby under 1yr or on the committee an exemption applies.

Cabin Club -

Thank you for your support in sending your children to us for Breakfast Club, Afterschool Club, PD days and Holiday Clubs. Your support is much appreciated and the staff and children really do enjoy these sessions .

Remember to accurately sign in and out your child at the beginning and end of sessions .There are two pricings for half a session and a whole session for Breakfast and after school club.

Thank you for all your continued support From the Pre-School/Cabin Staff and Committee