



Registered Charity No: 1128799

Dear parents

Once again the end of the school year is fast approaching. This term the children have been busy looking at changes taking place. They have observed the caterpillars growing and going through the stages of development before changing into beautiful butterflies and being released. They have been interested in watching the tadpoles, which are slowly beginning to change. We all enjoyed a visit from Steve, the Jungle T rex man who brought lots of creatures for the children to see and hold. He was very informative and delivered the session at the children's level, keeping them interested for the whole hour - brilliant.

The trip to Chatsworth was a success, everyone enjoyed the day. The children enjoyed a very bumpy tractor ride and saw lots of farm animals. They had lots of fun playing in the park and digging in the sand. We will put some photographs on the website.

We would like to welcome Vicky to the Hollies team, she is settling well into her new role. Another new face will be Alex, who will be joining the team at the end of June, we are looking forward to working with her. We still have a vacancy for a member of staff (approx 21 hours a week) and will be advertising shortly. If you know of anyone who would be interested please pass their details onto a supervisor or ask them to phone for details. We are also in need of bank staff to cover staff sickness and holidays - again please let us know if you are able to help out. All staff have recently updated their safeguarding training and some their first aid training (those who have not will be doing it shortly).

At the Hollies we are very aware of our duty to encourage the children in our care to be aware of healthy eating and care for their teeth. At lunch time staff encourage the children to eat their savoury items and fruit in preference to chocolates and cakes etc. This as you are all probably aware is not an easy task. We all enjoy a treat but we would like to ask if this could be limited to one per lunch box. Please do not put nut products in lunch boxes, including peanut butter on sandwiches. Could we please ask parents to include a drink in their child's lunch box.

When leaving or entering the premises please make sure the gate is firmly closed to ensure children cannot run straight out onto the car park. May we also remind parents that they must park on Hazelbadge road when collecting their child, regardless of the time as children are still walking through the car park before/after school.



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Our next fundraiser will be in September. We will be holding a family barbeque for all our parents, past and present - date to follow.

We are hoping to build a summerhouse to give us extra indoor space. This would be used for focus groups and circle/story times during pre-school sessions. It will add valuable space for the afterschool children to engage in quiet activities such as homework, lego and board games.

This years end of term party is being held on Saturday 16th July 11am - 1pm. This is for Hollies children only (due to numbers) and all children must be accompanied by an adult. Please bring a packed lunch on the day. Lucia will be here to entertain the children.

During the next few weeks the children starting school in September will be going to their new schools for visits. We will endeavour to have a member of staff at the visits to help settle them into their new surroundings. We will be making books with the children to include photographs of their new school, classroom, playground and teachers.

If any parents of children starting at Lower Park in September need any sessions to cover the half days during the first two weeks of term please e-mail Liz - liz.taylor@theholliespreschool.co.uk. Liz will confirm sessions by the end of term.

The Tesco vouchers have now been counted, this year we collected 3867 and we are currently browsing the catalogue to see how these can be spent. Many thanks to all of you who have sent them in. Sainsbury's have now stopped handing out vouchers, so please could you ensure they are all in by 20th June so we can start counting again!

We will be holding a New Parents Evening on Wednesday 22nd June 8pm at The Hollies. For those of you who will have children with us another 12 months and did not manage to attend this evening you are welcome to come along.

Hope you all have a lovely summer and we look forward to seeing some of you at the Summer holiday club.