

St George Preschool CIO– term 1 newsletter

As we approach the middle of term 1, we would like to wish you all a very warm welcome. It has been a pleasure to welcome back and meet new families who are starting their early years journey at St George Preschool. We are very much looking forward to teaching and caring for your children, helping them to grow and develop, and providing the best foundation to their early years' education. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call on 01179554271 or email on stgeorgepreschoolcio@gmail.com

Important Dates

Term 1 – Thursday 1st Sept to Friday 21st Oct (inset day Fri 21st October)

Term 2 – Monday 31st Oct – Friday 16th Dec (inset day Fri 16th December)

Term 3 – Tuesday 3rd Jan – Friday 10th Feb (inset day Fri 10th February)

Term 4 – Monday 20th Feb – Friday 31st (inset day Fri 31st March)

Term 5 – Monday 17th Apr – Friday 26th May

Term 6 – Monday 5th June – Fri 21st July (inset day Mon 5th June) (preschool closed on Thursday 20th & Friday 21st July for new children to visit)

Inset Days

In September 2021 the government made changes to the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. The focus is very much on staff spending quality time interacting with children very little time capturing and recording their learning. Our inset days are spent as a whole team discussing each child individually. We will be looking at their starting point and ensuring that they are developing both socially and academically. All of the children's learning is taught and extended during their play, when a child chooses their own activity, they are fully engaged and ready to learn.

Healthy Lunches

If your child stays all day, you can either order & pay for a hot lunch @ £2.60 per meal payable termly or provide them with a healthy packed lunch. We ask for no nuts or nut products, chocolate bars or sweets to be included in the packed lunch. Details of our current menu are available on our website & displayed on our notice board on the front of the building. <http://www.stgeorgepreschool.co.uk/>

Label everything!

To help us identify your child's belongings we ask can you please label their bags, lunch boxes, coats etc.

Toilet training

If you are toilet training, please bring in a named bag with spare clothes, wet wipes and plenty of pants! We are happy to apply nappy cream, if your child is sore and you request us to, however we ask for a permission slip to be completed.

Development of garden

Over the summer we had our garden further developed by 'touchwood'. The children are loving the additional resources that are available. We have 2 raised beds and are keen to get them filled with sensory flowers/herb/grasses. If you have any recommendations of a local companies, individuals that would be able to help us with this please speak to Sharon or Becky.

Outside everyday regardless of weather

Our children can go outside for most of the day, as it becomes colder, we ask that you layer them to help them to keep warm. We provide them with welly boot's, waterproof trousers, and jackets.

Keeping in touch

We record you child's learning with us on tapestry, if you have not received an email and activated your account, please email a.s.a.p. so that you can have access to your child's account. We are hoping to trial sending invoices for hot lunches/fees using the memo facility.

We also have a facebook open page where we let you know about different activities happening in the community.

Reporting an absence

If your child is unwell or unable to attend, please can you either call or email so that we can accurately record your child's attendance. If the telephone is unanswered, please leave a message & someone will call you back as soon as possible. Please avoid calling at 8:45, lunchtime & 14:45 as it is unlikely anyone will be in the office to take your call. Please remember that if your child has been off with sickness / diarrhoea they must stay home for at least 48 hours following last episode.

Your child's keyperson

Your child will have been allocated a key person, whilst all of us work with all the children this is their special person and they will keep you updated with how they are settling, learning. You will shortly receive an email offering you the opportunity of having a quick 10 minute catch up. They will be able to answer any questions you may have, share how they have settling, friendships etc. If at anytime you would like to have a word with your keyperson, please either email, call or speak to someone on the gate at drop off / collection time.

Drop off / collection

We have decided to continue with dropping off children at the entrance gate, we feel that this enables all of the children to settle much quicker into their preschool day. At collection time you are able to come onsite to collect your child. We ask that you enter through the parent's room, collect your child's belongings (and artwork) from their peg then go into either Oaks or Acorns room and collect your child. If you would like a quick chat on their day, ask questions we ask that you wait until most of the children have been collected so that we can ensure every child is safe during this time. We operate a 1-way system please enter through the parent's room and leave via the patio door in your child's room. Please ensure that your child is collected promptly at 11:45 or 14:45. We do have a late collection policy which includes a charge for persistent late collection.

National trust – free Autumn tickets

The national trust is giving away free visit tickets this Autumn, one ticket is for 2 adults & up to 4 children. <https://www.nationaltrust-tickets.org.uk/category/33142?branches.branchID=2286>

School applications for reception class September 2023

If your child was born between 1st September 2018 & 31st August 2019 you need to apply for a reception school place. You need to apply by the 15th of January 2023. You can apply online using the link below.

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/schools-learning-and-early-years/school-admissions/primary-admissions/primary-apply>

Becky has added details of open days to your child's tapestry account.