Hilltop Newsletter Term 3 (2023)

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| **Contact details**  Tel. 01275 390947 Mobile: 07467 513997  Manager Brampton & Hilltop: Sarah Bailey  [manager@portisheadpreschool.co.uk](mailto:manager@portisheadpreschool.co.uk)  Business administrator: Christine Hunter  [administrator@portisheadpreschool.co.uk](mailto:administrator@portisheadpreschool.co.uk)  Deputy/Safeguarding officer/pre-school assistant: Claire Godby  Health & Safety/pre-school assistant:  Joanna Gill  Pre-school assistants: Kirsty-Ann Sweeney Christine Hunter, Zoe Clarke | **Happy New Year!**  We are into term 3 and the children have been busy experimenting with light using the dark den and light boards as well as listening to the story ‘Whatever Next’ and learning our first poem of the term ‘I can build a snowman’.  The children have also begun to create items for the display board which can be seen in the daytime and at night.  Further information on this terms planning can be found at the end of this newsletter. | **Staff news**  We wanted to share with you the lovely news that Kirsty is pregnant and due to go on maternity leave at Easter. As Kirsty will not be onsite as much leading up to her maternity leave, we will be transferring her key children to other staff members to ensure consistency in learning and communication with parents. If your child is one of Kirsty’s key children, the new keyperson will make contact with you soon to introduce themselves. |
| **Fees/Funding**  Funding has now been submitted for the spring funding period and fees for this term should be with you soon, if you have any queries on funding please email Sarah Bailey [manager@portisheadpreschoolco.uk](mailto:manager@portisheadpreschoolco.uk)  and for fee queries email Chris Hunter [administrator@portisheadpreschool.co.uk](mailto:administrator@portisheadpreschool.co.uk) | **Absence**  If you child is absent through illness or you have a holiday, please can you ensure you notify the team either by phoning 01275 390947 or emailing Sarah [manager@portisheadpreschool.co.uk](mailto:manager@portisheadpreschool.co.uk).  **We are required to record this information**. | **Safer Internet Day 7th February**  This is an annual event that reminds us all how to keep children safe when using the internet.  Use the link below with further information  [Keeping under fives safe online | Childnet](https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/keeping-young-children-safe-online/) |
| There are lots of coughs and colds about, please consider if your child is well enough to attend pre-school to help minimise the risk of cross infection to others. [Colds, coughs and ear infections in children - NHS (www.nhs.uk)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/health/colds-coughs-and-ear-infections-in-children/) | **Lunch club**  Following a recent paediatrics first aid course, we have been advised to ask parents to cut grapes/sausages into quarters lengthways to prevent choking. |
| We will happily accept donations of old newspapers and boxed tissues for little noses. |
| **Wintry weather**  Please can you ensure your child has a raincoat and a warm jumper as we play outside in all weathers. | **Consumable donation**  We ask for a consumable donation of £9.00 each term, this covers the cost of food for snacks given each session, and activities such as baking. This charge is not mandatory, however as a charity without receiving this donation, we would be unable to offer this service to all children and provide such a high range of activities.  This can be paid directly into the pre-school account using the reference ‘**Snack**’ Thank you | **Raffle winner**  Congratulations to Sam (Parent at Hilltop) on winning the Christmas raffle drawn by the  Pre-school committee and allowing us to take a photo of her which was put on the Facebook page. We raised £200 which will help to purchase resources for both Brampton & Hilltop Pre-schools. |
| **School admissions**  If your child is due to start school September 2023, the closing date for admission is 15th January.  [Applying for a school place | North Somerset Council (n-somerset.gov.uk)](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/school-admissions/applying-school-place) |
| We will be running a Valentine’s raffle this term Information will be sent out about this soon. |

**Portishead Pre-school registered Charity no.1180880**

Term 3 planning 2023 Characteristics of effective learning: Playing and exploring-Active Learning-Creating and thinking critically

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| **PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL**  **DEVELOPMENT** | **COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE** | **PHYSICAL DEVEOPMENT** | **LITERACY** |
| Discuss who are we connected to Family, friends, pets. Create pictures of family, friends, pets  Use string/ribbon to connect to Child  Sharing, being kind to others  Understand gradually how others might be feeling  Play with one or more other children, extending and elaborating play ideas. Find solutions to conflicts and rivalries.  Hand washing- why is it important?  Understand behaviour expectations inside voices, walking inside.  Increasingly follow rules, understanding why they are important.  Use green colour monster as calming tool for children to associate with relaxation and wellbeing pink monster for love and caring. | Learning the sounds, Listening to jolly phonics  S, A, T, P, I, N. Use sound board.  Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens.  Can start and continue conversation with an adult/friend. Use a wider range of vocabulary  Use longer sentences of 4-6 words  When children have difficulties with correct pronunciation, reply naturally to what they say. Pronounce the word correctly so they hear the correct model  Understand a question or instruction that has two parts, such as: “Get your coat and wait at the door.”  Open-ended questions like “I wonder what would happen if….?” encourage more thinking and longer responses. | Increasingly be able to use and remember sequences and patterns of movements which are related to music and rhythm  Yoga & wellbeing activities  Continue to develop movement, balancing, riding and ball skills.  Go up steps and stairs, or climb up apparatus, using alternate feet.  Skip, hop, jump, stand on one leg and hold a pose – Mindfulness Yoga.  Begin to be increasingly independent using the toilet, washing hands, and drying them thoroughly and by putting on coats, doing up zips.  Use one handed tools and equipment | Print has meaning and can have different purposes  Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can: spot and suggest rhymes, count, or clap syllables in a word, recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother  Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary  **Stories**  Whatever next  Goldilocks and the three bears  Chinese New Year - Year of the Rabbit  Invisible string  **Previous poetry**  Chop, Chop  Breezy weather  Pointy Hat |
| **MATHEMATICS** | **UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD** | **EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN** | **POETRY BASKET POEM FOR TERM** |
| Develop fast recognition of up to three objects, without having to count them individually (‘subitising’).  Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5. Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total (‘cardinal principle’).  Show ‘finger numbers’ up to five. Link numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.  Provocation table-Boxes 1-5 varying items.  Use spatial words in play, including ‘in,’ ‘on,’ ‘under,’ ‘up’, ‘down’, ‘besides’ and ‘between’  Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight, and capacity | Explore how you can shine light through some materials, but not others. Investigate shadows.  how they can stretch elastic, snap a twig, but cannot bend a metal rod/spoon  magnetic attraction and repulsion  Introduce new vocabulary related to the exploration and encourage children to use it.  Celebrate and value cultural, religious and community events and experiences.  Chinese New Year Sunday, Jan.22  Safer internet day 7th February 2023  [Smartie the Penguin | Childnet](https://www.childnet.com/resources/smartie-the-penguin/)  Children’s wellbeing 6-12th Feb  Use green colour monster as calming tool for children to associate with relaxation and wellbeing  Valentine’s day- caring for each other.  Bake a heart biscuit | Wall display- light and dark  Use dark den with sensory lights and torches.  Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings.  Use different pieces of music to listen and relax to  Such as sounds of the rainforest, waves on the water, classical music ask the children how it make them feel?  Yoga & wellbeing activities  Wiggle your worries out- Wiggle your body for a minute then sit down and place hand on your heart and listen ask them how their body feels.  Teddy bear breathing- Teddy placed on tummy. Together, try breathing in for a few seconds then out for a few seconds. Encourage children to watch their ‘breathing buddy’ go up and down with every breath they take.  Affirmation and sign I am brave, I am kind. Makaton signs for above | **Poetry**  I can build a snowman  I can build a snowman,  I can build it high  I can build a snowman,  Up into the sky.  Mrs Bluebird  Here’s a nest for Mrs Bluebird,  Here’s a hive for Mr Bee,  Here’s a hole for bunny rabbit,  And here’s a house for me |

Lunch club Information- updated January 2023

Portishead Pre-school (Brampton & Hilltop) offer a lunch club facility every day during term time, this enables children to attend all day from 9:00am-3:30pm.

Lunch club is charged at £4.50 each session (Charged termly, invoiced via email) a packed lunch and drink is required for your child.

At preschool we encourage children to eat all their packed lunch starting with sandwiches/savoury items first.

Please support us by providing healthy, child sized food portions that are familiar to your child. Children sit at tables with their peers supervised by staff during lunch club, where we encourage good table manners, independence and social skills. Please support your child at home to practice opening/closing lids on drinks bottles and boxes as although products are designed and marketed for children, some containers can prove tricky for little fingers.

We promote healthy eating and due to severe allergies, do not allow products containing nuts such as Nutella, peanut butter, or other similar items. If in doubt, please check food labels. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter to safeguard the wellbeing of all children who attend.

Please remember the following:

* Clearly write your child’s name on their lunchbox and drinks bottle
* Place an ice pack to keep lunch cool and fresh
* Provide a drink for your child (Not fizzy)
* A spoon for yoghurts
* Cut grapes, cocktail sausages, cucumber, and carrot batons into quarters lengthways to minimise the risk of choking.
* Please do not send in sweets, this is a treat that can be enjoyed at home.

Thank you ☺