



Nurture, Inspire, Grow, Flourish

April 2024

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely Easter break.

Last term the children's interests were in construction, and mark making. This term we will give the children the opportunity to continue with these using different building media and introduce the children to different reasons to write, for example when reading stories, we will discuss the characters that are in them, and where the story is based. The children be given the chance to draw their own characters from the story, repeat the refrains and/or retell it. This will help to develop their language, creativity and imagination.

We will be looking at the life cycles of plants, growing seeds and learning the names of plants. Whilst doing this we will be subitising, using 5 frames and developing our mark making skills.

We cannot stress the importance of play for the children in Pips and all of the above and more will be done through their play. When they show different interests, we will follow those and if they need more support in one area of development, we will provide activities to develop it.

"Children learn as they play. Most importantly, in play children learn how to learn." O.Fred Donaldson

We would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to CHIPS for buying a new robot for the children. They really enjoy programming it.

TD Days 28th June, 1st July.

Dates for your Diary

May 24th Stay & Play in the woods

May 27th - 31st Half Term

June 12th Sports Day (19th if wet)

June 27th Start of Story Trail around the village

July 10th Parents Evening for leavers

July 19th Family Forest School session & lunch.

All Welcome

July 23rd - Last day at Pips.

- School leavers service 2pm

Working parents childcare funding

30-hour funding where parents get another 15 hours on top of the universal funding that all 3 & 4 year olds are entitled too.

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/child-care-30-hour-parents>

Funding for 2year olds who parents work, you may be able to apply for this funding; please have a look at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working>
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working>

The Childcare choices website gives advice to parent/carers on all the childcare support there is. At the bottom of the page is a link to Help for Households – support for cost of living rises and energy saving tips.
<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>



Safeguarding

Mrs Bekker-Wrench is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for Chirton, and Sarah Jones is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL).

If you are concerned about a child, please talk to us or call the NSPCC helpline **0808 800 5000**

Away from Pips /Sickness

If your child is unwell or they are not going to attend Pips for any reason, please can we ask that you let us know either via e-mail, phone or if they are going on holiday/ to the doctors you can pop a note in their communication book.

If we don't hear from you, we will be phoning you to check that everything is ok.

If your child is poorly, please do not send them into Pips. This includes them having a high temperature. If they have had Calpol to help reduce their temperature they should stay at home and not come into Pips for 48hrs after their last dose of Calpol.

If you have given your child Calpol before they come into Pips, it is essential that you let us know. This is just in case we have to call the emergency services; they will need to know if they have been given any medication.

Forest School

Hopefully we will start to see some dryer, warmer weather this term. Please do send your children in with their waterproofs, the ground is still very wet and they do like to splash in puddles!

They will also need a couple of layers under their coats until it warms up. Then they can come to the forest in long trouser, long-sleeved t-shirts, sun hats and boots or trainers. We have ticks in the woods, so it really important that the children are covered up all year round. If it is really hot, we are very happy to help them get changed once we are back in Pips into something cooler.

Please don't order your children hot lunches on a Monday and Friday, we are hoping that we will be able to have lunch in the woods very soon.

Stay & Play

These sessions are for parents to come in and visit Pips, chat to the staff, spend time with their children in the setting and learn about the activities we have available.

If you would like to come to a Stay and Play session, please let us know.

Pips Uniform – It's a good idea to have a hoodie or T-shirt to prevent the children's clothes from getting ruined. This can be brought from Galileo in Devizes, telephone number 01380 724442.

Polo shirt £8.00 T-Shirt £5.50 Hoodie £14.00 Sweatshirt Jumper £9.50

Please can you name all the children's clothes and footwear so we know who they belong to. Thank you.



Tel: 07910195330 E-mail: ChirtonPipsPreschool@Chirton.wilts.sch.uk

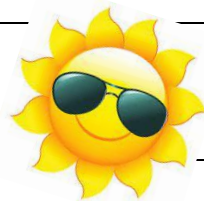
Transition to school

Moving to school is the next big step for some of our children and it is really important we try to make it as easy for them as possible. We have spoken to some of the reception teachers in EQUA and the most important things for the children to be doing are the following:

- Putting on their own shoes and coats
- Opening their lunch boxes and the containers inside
- Taking themselves to toilet
- Washing their hands
- Pushing their chairs in
- Hanging coats up
- Getting themselves dressed
- Recognising their names
- Being able to sit and listen for a short amount of time
- Tidy up
- Have a good bedtime routine



We will be working on all of these over the next few months. Please could you also work on these with your children.



Staying safe in the Sun

Children love to be outside playing in the sunshine, but it is really important that we prevent them from burning. Please make sure that your children have their shoulders covered with a t-shirt or dress, and that they have a named sunhat to put on. We will ensure that they are in the shade as much as possible and that they have plenty to drink.

Please can we ask that you put suncream on your children before they arrive in Pips. We are happy to reapply it at lunch time to prevent them getting burnt. Please put their suncream in their bag with their name on it.

If they don't have any suncream we will put some on them. In Pips we have

Boot Soltan Kids suncream, Factor 50+ UVA 5 star.