



## Nurture, Inspire, Grow, Flourish

### May 2023

This is the busiest of terms with our Coronation Party being held on the 12 May, to coincide with the end of Year 6 SATS, Chirton's Race for Life – raising money for Cancer Research a charity close to our hearts and all the end of term activities; so please do check to see what is happening when.

The children have been really enjoying the drier, sunnier weather! The woods are so lovely at this time of year, with the children noticing the many changes that are happening: another calf appearing in the field, blossom on the trees and the different flowers in the meadows. It still hasn't dried up in the woods, but this has been an excellent way of making mud sculptures, mud balls and pancakes. These activities have supported subitising, fine motor skills and language development.

The children's interest in growing continues to develop. We have started to grow apple trees and peppers from the seeds in the fruit they have at snack time and beans. This week will be starting to look at Sunflowers.

We set up a planting area in the garden for the children to explore. If you have any spare seeds, pots, compost or canes at home please do bring them in. As this will encourage the children to think about what seeds they would like to plant and learn to take care of them.

Our transition days start next Tuesday with a joint Forest School session with Joy. Please do make sure your child has their Forest School clothes including gloves with them.

Dates are as follows:

9<sup>th</sup> May, 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June for Forest School

Classroom visits are on:

24 May, 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June from 9.30 – 10.30am

The Forest School sessions will include all Pips children.



### Dates for your Diary

8<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday

12 May – Coronation Party 1.30pm - 3.00pm

17 May – Stay and Play 1.30pm – 3.00pm

29 May – 2 June Half Term

8 June – Race for Life (pm)

12 June – Pips Sponsored Scooter Event

20 June – Messy Stay and Play 9.00am – 10.30am

30 June – TD Day, pre-school closed

3 July - TD Day, pre-school closed

5 July – Sports Day 9.15 – 10.15

12 July – Parents evening for children who are leaving Pips

24 July - Last Day of term

9am – 1.00pm Family Picnic in the woods for everyone



Tel: 07910195330 E-mail [chirtonpips@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chirtonpips@hotmail.co.uk)

## Chickens

Our chickens are really enjoying being out and about again and have started laying.

If you would like some eggs, please ask a member of staff. We are asking for a **£1.50 donation** which goes towards their food.



## Help Needed!

On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May we are holding a joint working party with the school from 9am, for a couple of hours. We are hoping to get a few jobs done and tidy up the front of pre-school. If anyone is able to spare an hour or two, we would be very grateful.

We are hoping to fix the mud kitchen shelter and tidy up/ plant the area in front of Pips. We would like to make this into a wild flower, butterfly and bee friendly space. If you have any plants that would help us to achieve this, please do bring them in. We already have wildflower seeds.

Thank you in advance.



## School Trip – 13 July 2023

In the past we have had a trip to Fairfield Animal Centre in Trowbridge. This is a lovely day out and chance for parents and children to get together outside of pre-school.

For this trip to happen, we close pre-school for the day and staff, children and parents meet at the Centre at 10.00am.

We understand that some parents work and will be unable to come and we are happy to take a couple of children in our cars. But these spaces are limited.

***We would like to know if anyone is interested in going. Please can you let us know what your thoughts are by Wednesday 24 May 2023 so we can let you all know if we are going.***

I have attached a link to Fairfield Animal Centre below.

<https://fairfieldanimalcentre.co.uk/opening-times/>



# Pips News

Tel: 07910195330 E-mail [chirtonpips@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chirtonpips@hotmail.co.uk)

## Forest School

It is really important that the children are dressed correctly for our Forest School sessions.

Although it is warming up, we would like to remind parents that even on the hottest of days the woods are cooler and a fleece is required over a long sleeve top. We are happy to help the children change to a short sleeve once we are back in Pips.

As we have deer in the woods it is essential that the children wear long sleeved tops, long trousers and socks with trainers or wellies, depending on the weather. Although we haven't seen many Ticks over the years, it is really important that we protect the children from Ticks as much as possible. We ask that parents check them for Ticks when they get home. Please click on the link below for more information.

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/public-health-tick-awareness>

Spring is here, and with that the warmer weather. Please can we ask that all the children come with a packed lunch on Mondays and Fridays so we can have our lunch in the woods. Thank you.

Please send your children in dressed in their FS kit and with a bag for their wet FS clothes to go back home in.

## Monday Forest School Sessions

Whilst Saffy is on Maternity Leave, we are going to need parental help for our Monday sessions. If you are able to help, please do speak to a member of staff.

The session we need help with are ....

22 May, 5 June, 12 June, 19 June, 10 July,

Thank you in advance for your help.

## Away from Pips

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.

## Important: -

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 12hrs 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.

**30-hour funding** - To find out more about the 30-hour funding please have a look at the following website.

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

You may be able to get **Tax Free Childcare** if you (and your partner, if you have one) are:

- In work
- On sick leave or annual leave
- On shared parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave.

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

## Childcare Choices

Government help with childcare costs for parents. Whether you have toddlers or teen you could get support. <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>