



February 2022

Newsletter

What we have been doing

The children have settled back really well, we have celebrated Chinese New Year by colouring in the year of the Tiger.

We made some cards and heart shaped chocolates for Valentine's Day.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.



DIARY DATES



- End of Spring term – Friday 8th April @ 1 pm – Friday 22nd April 2022
- Start of Summer term – Monday 25th April 2022
- May day Monday 2nd May 2022
- May half term Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2022
- End of Summer Term – Friday 22nd July 2022 @ 1pm
- Start of Autumn Term - TBC

For further term dates please refer to the [Burghclere Pre-School Website](#)

New Covid Rules

This is taken from The Early Years Alliance

The Prime Minister confirmed that the government will remove all legal Covid-19 restrictions as part of its "strategy for living with Covid", which will see a move from "government restrictions" to "personal responsibility".

Speaking in the House of Commons, Boris Johnson announced that: As of 21 February, the government will remove the guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing

As of Thursday 24 February, the government will remove all remaining domestic Covid-19 restrictions in law, including the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive Covid-19 test. This will be replaced with government 'advice' to stay at home if positive for Covid-19 until Friday 1 April.

End routine contact tracing, and no longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and under-18s to test daily for seven days. Remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.

As of Friday 1 April, the government will replace government advice to stay at home following a positive Covid-19 test with the expectation that people will 'exercise personal responsibility'.

End free symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public, though free symptomatic testing to the oldest age groups and those most vulnerable to Covid will continue. The government also intends to work with retailers to ensure that "everyone who wants to can buy a test".

Neil Leitch, CEO of the Alliance, commented: "While we know that many working in the early years sector will welcome today's step towards a return to normal, it is likely that many others will be understandably worried about the potential impact of the removal of self-isolation requirements on the safety and wellbeing of not only themselves, but their colleagues and loved ones.

"Early years providers have gone above and beyond to keep their settings as safe as possible throughout this crisis, but with reports of positive cases within the sector soaring to record highs over recent weeks, it's clear that for our sector, the pandemic is not yet over.

"With under-fives now the only group not eligible for vaccinations and the early years remaining a particularly close-contact environment, it is vital that the government ensures that those working in the early years sector are protected as the changes announced today come into effect. This means ensuring that providers are actively supported to apply and enforce their own Covid-19 policies, based on their own professional judgement and risk assessments, and to take the steps they feel are needed to keep themselves and the children and families they support as safe as possible."

Whilst I know this is still a worrying time for you as parents we have agreed that we will ensure we still inform you of any confirmed Covid cases either staff or children and it will be up to you if you send your child in to pre-school.

We cannot stop staff or children attending the preschool if they have Covid the ownership will be on the adult or parent to do what they see fit. The staff will test if they feel unwell at any point or until our Lft tests run out.

Safeguarding

Child protection plays a major part in Early years, there is some fantastic videos on you tube that you can watch with your child, explaining about who sees what, who we can trust etc.

Have a look at Talk PANTS with Pantosaurus and his PANTS song #TalkPANTS from the NSPCC.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS & UPDATES



Amazon Smile

I expect lots of you are now using on line sites for your shopping like myself, if like me you are using Amazon more do you know you can change this to Amazon smile and get the same benefits as you do now, the added bonus is that you can add the pre-school on to receive a percentage of your spending. Please have a go and swap over with us as your chosen charity.

Please share this with you friends and families.

Download or **update** to the latest version of the **Amazon** Shopping app on your phone. You can find it in the App Store for iOS or Google Play for Android. Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (☰). Tap on '**Amazon Smile**' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on **Amazon Smile** on your phone.

Future Fundraising

Here are a few ideas we have come up with for future fundraising ideas:

Bingo Night

Darren Higgins evening

A stall at the Primary schools fete

Ferret Racing

If you can think of more please let us know

GENERAL INFORMATION

Chair person

We have not appointed a new chair, we are very grateful to Hayley Davies for stepping into the role. We are now looking for a new **Treasurer**, this is one of our must have roles to keep the pre-school going.

If you would like more information about the committee roles and what you need to do please let me know.

Allergies

We have children at the setting with **severe NUT and EGG allergies**, please DO NOT put anything with either of these into your child's lunch boxes. Having either of these can cause a life threatening illness. E.G Chocolate spread, certain cereal bars.

ALL GRAPES AND MINI COCKTAIL SAUSAGES MUST BE CUT LONG WAYS IN HALF.

School sweatshirts and t-shirts

We have a lovely selection of pre-school sweatshirts and t-shirts. The sizes are 3-4 & 5 -6, the sweatshirts are £9.00 and the t-shirts are £6.50. This is a fantastic way of protecting your child's favourite clothes, we do have messy play and at some point they may get paint, mud etc on their clothes.

Hayley, Clare, Juliann, Lesley and Melissa