



### Dates for your Diary

### Staff news

2 Mar	World book day
7 March	Leavers photograph
21 & 22 Mar	Parents evenings
31 Mar	End of term (12.00, no afternoon pre-school)
18 Apr	School places announced
19 Apr	Start of summer term
30 May—5 Jun	Summer half term
21 July	End of term

Sadly Mrs Doust has decided to leave Teatimers. Mrs Benning and Mrs Black will continue as the Red Group keyworkers with help from the rest of the team whilst we look for a replacement.

Brian, our handyman, has finally had to hang up his hammer and retire. Although many of you will never have met him, he has been an endless source of fascination to the children for many years and we will all miss him.

Miss Becky gave birth to baby Chase Arthur on 31st January. They are doing well, and came in to see us all this week

### End of term

Term finishes at 12.00pm on Tuesday 31st March. There is no afternoon Pre-school session on this day and you will not be charged for the session.

### World Book day—Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Please dress your child up as a favourite book character to support world book day. Please bring the book if possible as we will be looking at the stories and characters during group time.

### Toys and jewellery

Do not let your child bring toys and play jewellery in from home into Pre-school. Once lost amongst the thousands of items we have, we may not be able to find it.

### Focus on.. Phonics

This term we are doing phonics with the children who will go to school in September.

Our phonics program is linked to the program used in reception at Sandygate. By working together we hope that our children will benefit from a continuous phonics programme from Pre-School into School. .

We will be having phonics time during all our sessions.

This link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IwJx1NSineE> will enable you to see the sounds your child will be taught both at Teatimers and at School

### Please can we have....

.. Your old junk. We need clean Jam jars / pasta sauce jars for mothers' day craft. Also any boxes / kitchen roll inners and old Birthday / Christmas card fronts.

## **Changing Sessions**

It is time to think about changes to sessions you may want for next term. To increase or change sessions, please fill in a change request form and return it to the office. You can get a paper copy from us or fill one in online ([teatimers.com/pre-school/forms](http://teatimers.com/pre-school/forms)) and email one back to us.

### **Updating our records—a note from Toby**

I am developing a new way to use our child information to make our services safer. However, we don't currently hold the right information to make it work properly.

To finish the job, I will soon be asking all Teatimers families to provide new information covering health, allergies and permissions.

As you may imagine, this is a big job for a small team to manage so we are going to collect the information online. You will be given a code to use instead of your child's name, so that all the information you provide is anonymous until we process it.

You will soon receive an email with more information and a link to the survey.

## **School Admissions**

At the end of this Summer term, 36 Children will leave us to go to school. The schools application process is now closed and you will find out on the 18<sup>th</sup> April which school you have offered.

In the unhappy event that you don't get the place you wanted for your child, you may consider going to appeal and we are always here to talk. Please understand though that, unless you can show an error in how the published admissions criteria were applied to you, your chances at appeal are zero. Although you are welcome to copies of your child's records, we do not provide references in support of appeals.

Although there is no certainty at this stage, it would be helpful for our planning to know where our children may be headed—this question will be on the survey mentioned above..

## **Lost Property**

Please make sure that you pick up your child's items from the lost property basket in the lobby. At the end of term, all lost property is once again being donated to a church charity that will take all the items out to Africa.

## **Parents Evening**

This term our Parents evenings are on 21st and 22nd March. This is a great opportunity to discuss progress.

Parents evenings are open to everyone who wants to come. This term it is particularly relevant for children who joined this term and those who are soon to leave for school and we would strongly encourage these families to come along. Please remember that concern and issues should be raised as soon as you have them - never wait for parents evening if it is important to you.

## **Leavers Photo**

This year's leavers photos are being taken on Tuesday 7th March. The final picture is a group photo—you can see examples above all the windows in Teatimers.

If it is not your normal day, please will you bring your child in for 9.00 and stay with them whilst the photographer works her magic.