



# Kea Pre-school and Out of School Club Newsletter

Tel: 01872 260299  
info@keapreschool.co.uk  
www.keapreschool.co.uk

## March 2020

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### March/April

- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March: Last Day of Spring Term
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Holiday Club
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April: Bank Holidays (closed)
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April: National Offer Day (Primary School Confirmation)

#### May

- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> and Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May: Bank Holidays (closed)
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May: Tempest group photo for school leavers – 10.30am
- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>-Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May: Half-term Holiday Club

## Holiday Club

We have planned some really exciting holiday club activities this year! Our last holiday club in February half-term was very popular. We held parties every day with face glitter, tattoos, and party games, along with various craft activities, and a visit from an animal centre! This Easter holiday club we have a 'Greatest Showman' style circus theme planned for the first week, with circus parties, craft and a visit from a children's entertainer ventriloquist! The second week will be Easter themed with an Easter egg hunt, craft and Easter parties. Please see our holiday club plan on our facebook page/website for more information. To book please speak to a member of staff, email or phone us. We also welcome children from other schools/nurseries.



## Staff Update

We said goodbye to Christie this term, and we wish her the best of luck in her new job. We also welcome Tracey to the team. Tracey has worked in various nurseries and pre-schools, including here at Kea Pre-school for a number of years. She will be joining us as a permanent Early Years and Playwork Practitioner.

## School Confirmation

If you have applied for your school place before the January closing date, you will be informed on 16<sup>th</sup> April which school your child will have a place at. Please inform us when you know so we can contact the school to arrange to share information with them.

## 'Pop up' Roleplay

We have two role-play areas - one which stays as a 'home corner', and one which is a 'pop up' area which changes to the children's interests every half term. The pre-school children are able to suggest new ideas at circle time. We then choose two themes and the children vote for what they would like it to be. This half term, they have chosen a Castle! The children have enjoyed looking at fairytale books in the castle tent, dressing up as knights and dragons, and engaging in new imaginative play!

**This half term's pop up  
roleplay area is:  
A Medieval Castle!**



Kea school children will be invited to 'Learning Together' sessions. If they are normally at pre-school for that session we can take them across, or you are welcome to collect your child and take them yourself. Dates and times will be confirmed closer to the time. If you have any questions about school transition, whichever school your child will be attending, we are happy to help.

## Increasing Sessions

If you would like to increase your child's sessions this academic year (before July), please see Michelle. We currently have spaces available for some pre-school sessions and some limited breakfast and afterschool club sessions. We are able to book these in advance, for example, if you wanted your child to change sessions after Easter. Please remember that pre-school children are eligible to receive 15 hours per week of free early education funding (and up to 30 hours per week for eligible families), starting the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. We are currently getting a lot of enquiries for September 2020 and have even taken bookings for September 2022, so please book early to avoid disappointment!

## Coronavirus

We will send separate Coronavirus update emails as and when they occur, taking the advice of the government and Public Health England (PHE). Please can parents let us know straight away if they test positive for the infection or if they are self-isolating. As per the guidance from PHE we are being particularly vigilant on encouraging the children to wash their hands thoroughly (especially before eating, after using the toilet and after coughing, sneezing and wiping their nose).

If you have specific questions about the virus, you can contact the new Department for Education helpline on:

- Call: 0800 046 8687
- Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

## Important reminders

### Weather-appropriate clothing

Please can parents make sure they send their child to pre-school and out of school club with a warm coat and appropriate clothing for the cold weather. Children can sometimes be outside for quite a long time and need appropriate clothing for the weather conditions. We provide mittens for pre-school children. As with all clothing at pre-school, there is a chance it will get wet and dirty, so please send clothes which can be easily cleaned and aren't special. 'Messy' activities are not provided in breakfast club so that school children do not dirty their uniform before going to school.

### Children left in cars

We have still had reports of some younger siblings of our pre-school and school children being left in cars on the road outside pre-school or down in the layby unaccompanied. We understand that parking can be difficult and that this may be the easier option, however there have already been 2 collisions on this road recently, and we are very concerned that this is an accident waiting to happen. The road outside pre-school is a high traffic area around pickup times and lots of farm vehicles and lorries use the road at various times throughout the day. Please do not put your children in danger.

### Tidying up

All of our children are encouraged to tidy up the toys they have been playing with when they have finished. We believe this teaches the children respect for the toys and equipment, respect for their environment and respect for each other. It is a fundamental part of our planning style and it also allows us to keep everybody safe (older children are encouraged to tidy away scissors out of reach of the younger children for example). If your child has a toy out when you arrive to collect, please can you allow them a few minutes to tidy it away before leaving.

### Lunches

Children starting school in September will now be given their own lunchboxes and encouraged to open their own wrappers in preparation for starting school. Please can parents provide tubs and wrappers that the children can attempt to open whilst they are still learning to do this. Children who have a cooked lunch will be encouraged to collect their own plates and cutlery.

We remind parents that we cannot give children chocolate based products, sweets, or anything containing nuts due to our policy. All grapes, cherry tomatoes and olives given to pre-school children and Foundation class children should be cut in to quarters **lengthways**. Thank you.

### Toys

We ask that children do not bring toys from home in to our setting unless something for their focus week to share at group time. Toys from home often cause arguments between children, or things get lost or broken. A comfort toy, especially when a child is first settling is fine and can be kept in your child's bag for when needed.

**Thank you for your continued support - we really appreciate it!**

If you wish to leave us a comment or suggestion, there is a new parent feedback form on our website.