

We hope everyone had a healthy and safe half term. We look forward to seeing more of our children this half term as they return to Whizz Kids - we've missed you. We have lots of fun activities planned over the remaining weeks of this Spring term as the children re-establish friendships, learn new routines and get involved in shared experiences.



Speech, Language and Communication

Communication is at the forefront of the newly revised Early Years Foundation Stage, Development Matters (from September 2021). Research has found that communication is central to children's learning and emotional well being. At Whizz Kids, we use different strategies and resources to enhance children's communication, such as Early Talk Boost, Attention Bucket, stories written by speech and language therapists, including some with CD's to be read out loud to children. Some of these resources are usually available to be shared with parents to use at home. Due to the pandemic, we are unable to lend out these resources at the moment (hopefully soon!). There are numerous websites that are available that have fantastic resources, ideas and information that really are worth exploring. These include Top Tips, individual articles and strategies that can support your child's development. We list a few of these here. If you have any concerns about your child's communication and language, do not hesitate to speak to your child's keyperson. They can

Outdoor Play/Wild Whizz Kids

We hope to reinstate our Wild Whizz Kids sessions later this half term, weather permitting and if the field is not waterlogged! (Dates will be confirmed). Being outside is vital for everyone's health, especially in these uncertain times. It can strengthen immune systems and give children an opportunity for a change of environment and freedom to develop their gross muscles through play. Being outside also allows a child to immerse themselves with nature – look for wildlife, go on a bug hunt, make dens! Spring is a great season that gives children a chance to see the changes that occur in the natural world this time of year!

With the outdoor "classroom" becoming more important in our society it encourages children to use their imaginations, problem solve and build resilience. At Whizz Kids, we give our children a choice of indoor and outdoor play, always ensuring in cold weather that they are suitably clothed for the elements. In our experience, most children love spending time outside and gain a lot developmentally from the experience.



signpost you to any specific websites and will be happy to offer their support.

<https://www.tlc-essex.info/>

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

<https://www.smallstepsbigchanges.org.uk/biglittlemoments>

Our COVID Policies and Procedures are available to view on our website and “on-site” at Whizz Kids. All parents of children who are attending have returned a signed declaration. It is **essential** that these are referred to and strictly adhered to ensure the safety and well-being of all children, their families and our staff. Failure to abide by our policy and government guidelines may result in your child’s place being withdrawn from Whizz Kids. Please ensure face masks/coverings are worn at “drop off/pick-up” as per our policy. If your child is absent due to **any** illness, we would appreciate a telephone call/text to let us know. Thank you.

DIARY DATES

Start of 2nd half of Spring Term	Mon 22nd February	Wild Whizz Kids	Tues 9th March (TBC) Wed 24th March (TBC)
Mother’s Day	14th March		
Easter Spring Break	Mon 29th March – Friday 9th April.		
End of Spring Term	26th March	Beginning of Summer Term	Monday 12th April

Fees/Hours

Fees paid monthly, half termly and termly - these are due at the **beginning** of each month/half term/term. Each fee letter details when payments are due and these dates should be adhered to. Late payments and/or payments in cash will incur a £6 admin charge. If you have any questions in respect of fees, please speak to Sara or Terina.

To avoid any confusion or embarrassment, if your child attends any additional sessions/lunch clubs/afternoon clubs etc on a pay as you go basis, these payments **MUST** be paid on the day your child attends their extra hours, at the **start** of their session. **We are not able to “swap” funded sessions as we are near to full capacity on most days.** If you require an extra day/lunchclub/afternoon club etc., please speak to Sara/Terina as we will have to check our child/adult ratios and any notified absentees. Thank you.

A Couple of Reminders!

- If children have had sickness and diarrhoea, please leave at least 48 hours after the last symptom before returning to pre-school to help prevent the risk of infection to other children/staff.
- Please notify Whizz Kids as soon as possible if your child contracts chicken pox.
- For those children that attend our lunch club, please could you ensure that your child’s lunchbox includes an ice pack, especially when containing dairy products. **Grapes** and **cherry tomatoes** continue to be a choking hazard for young children. If your child has these, please can you ensure that they are cut in two, lengthways.
- We are a **NUT FREE ZONE**. Please ensure that your child does NOT have **peanut butter** in their packed lunch as nuts and derivatives of them, can have serious consequences for people with nut allergies.



As always, please remember mums, dads and carers, you can discuss any concerns or issues with Sara/Terina or your child’s keyperson at any time. Your child’s Learning Journey and progress notes are also always available to look at/or discuss and contribute to.

Tel: Sara/Terina on 07948 970027/contact@whizzkidspre-school.co.uk



At Whizz Kids Pre-School Hockley Limited
Or our website: www.whizzkidspre-school.co.uk