

Welcome back after our Easter Break. We hope you all had a happy, healthy Easter! We are looking forward to a safe, exciting Summer Term. We welcome some new friends and their families starting with us this term too and look forward to settling them in on their Whizz Kids Journey with us. Fund raising this year has raised so far £35 for **Comic Relief**, £45 for **Children in Need** and we are continuing with our **Wear a Hat** campaign to help raise awareness for brain tumours through treatment and research.



Although Easter has passed, we are launching our **Smartie Challenge**, which was a fantastic hit last year. For those who wish to take part, just ask your keyperson or Terina/Sara, who will give your child a tube of smarties to enjoy! If you could fill your smartie tubes with any loose change you may have around once the Smarties have been eaten and return the tubes to Whizz Kids! Thank you once again for your support – this is a fantastic way to raise funds and enjoy a little more chocolate!

Co op Local Cause – Just before Easter we were gifted £102 from the Co op as the first amount that has accumulated as part of the Local Cause programme that they run. We will be using this on some resources for our Wild Whizz Kids sessions and outdoor environments for your children to enjoy.

Staff News! Welcome to Julia Llagna, who has been volunteering at Whizz Kids, whilst she has been completing her Level 2 childcare qualification and now will be joining our team for Summer Term!

Summer Possibilities!



The pandemic has over the past year not allowed us to take part in some of our favourite activities that parents are invited to, due to restrictions. Our Play and Stay sessions, MacMillan Coffee Morning, Autumn Woodland Walks etc. Although we did find a safe (and alternative) way to have our Nativity 2021, and walk to the Post Box. We are all hoping things may be different soon. One of our favourite events is our Sports/Fun day which is held in July. In the past this has always been a great success and a fabulous way to end our Summer Term celebrating with the children and their families. We have also missed external professionals coming in to speak to the children such as Guide Dogs, Police and the Fire Brigade. We will do our best to reintroduce these as soon as we can, keeping Covid guidelines and everybody's safety in mind. A big part of this will be your continued support in following our Covid guidelines, wearing of masks, notification of illnesses etc. which we truly thank you for.

Fingers crossed.

Do you need support? Your Team Around the Family. Essex County Council can offer your family early help, advice and guidance through a Family Support Officer in your area. Support with children's behaviour, financial support, mental health and bereavement are examples of some of the services they can offer. We have some Leaflets that give useful websites and links that may be of interest. A directory of Services is also available on this link's website: <https://www.essexeffectivesupport.org.uk/early-help/>

Lateral Flow Tests

As part of our continued responsibility for the safety of our staff, your children and families, all our staff and/or volunteers currently take lateral flow tests twice weekly.

THIS TERM'S EVENTS!

Start of Spring Term	Mon 12th April	Wild Whizz Kids!	26 th April/12 th May
Bank Hol Monday: Half Term:	3 rd May 24 th – 28 th May	Spring Woodland Walk	Wed 19 th May
Fathers Day	Sun 20 ^h June	Guide Dog Visit	TBC?
Sports/Fun Day	Wed 7 ^h July	Reserve Sports Day	Wed 14 ^h July
Room 2 Leavers' Party	Thursday 15 th July	End of Summer Term	Friday 16 th July

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. Thank you.

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 your child has a temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste/smell or any COVID-19 symptoms, they should **not attend and isolate** immediately.
- 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. Thank you.



Our COVID Policies and Procedures are available to view on our website and "on-site" at Whizz Kids. It is **essential** that these are read and strictly adhered to ensure the safety of all.

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



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At Whizz Kids Pre-School Hockley Limited

Or our website: www.whizzkidspre-school.co.uk