

Dear all,

I hope you and your families are all well!

Last week Linda and I were looking at our waiting list and trying to plan for September! Through this we rang some families to discuss sessions and actually got to speak to some of our preschoolers, past and present, which was amazing! It was also really funny as “word on the street” quickly circulated and we had some calls from parents waiting for future places for Preschool, one of them being Dan!

Obviously we have no idea in what format, or when we will be reopening, and as you will, we may have a better idea later this week, however it looks like we will have space in September for some more preschool children between 9-3 so if you know anyone who is interested please let them know! I have this week updated our website with some great pictures of our garden, with some activities set up. And yesterday, with the help of my children, have made a virtual tour of our setting, (!!), where I talk about the sorts of things we do at preschool and why! I will share the tour (once edited!) with anyone that would like to see it. (Bonus points if you can see my youngest daughter, swinging from the basketball hoops, in the background!)

I virtually met with North Hinksey School Head and Sally Claxton (Reception Teacher) but until we know more about reopening, they have not been able to decide on transition arrangements so we will need to wait. They do however need all families to accept their places, so if you haven't already done this, please do so asap! If your child is moving on to a different school, and they have shared anything about transition, it would be helpful to let me know. I will also be contacting those other schools in due course.

Here are some resources for starting school, though I would say don't over worry about this and start prepping your child too soon, but if you are interested here you go! -

This has lots of support for parents around starting school and lots of resources too-

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/partnerships/starting-school-together/preparation/#Resources%20for%20parents>

This is from Oxfordshire County Council, and it is a bit dry, but has links on it too: -

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/file/early-years-childcare/Familiesschoolreadinessbooklet.pdf>

BBC Bitesize, more interactive :-

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrxjrj6?fbclid=IwAR3KIlcobecu4TuGfx9-4rb-9NBmw7MwyMqSJpAdLU4k02ImWTJfQLKj9bl>

Hopefully you can open this link below (right click and open), perhaps print it for your child to tick off the things they can already do!



Im_Ready_For_School
_Leaflet.pdf

I know it is so hard to not know what is around the corner, and please know we are here for you, any time, if you have any concerns, or just want to talk to someone, please let me know and I'll call you. Many of you now, are in contact with your child's key person. If you send them any photos or any messages, they will be kept for your child's memory book. Also, if any one has registered for the Tales Toolkit, that I shared last week, if you have any pictures or feedback Oxfordshire County Council would like to know what you think of it!

One last thing... Well done Holly (Olivia's mum and family), who have been rock painting (beautifully) and leaving them around the nature reserve for families to go and find. If you know of any other incentives people are doing let me know and I'll share them. I also know there are Fairy doors in Oatlands Park behind the Botley Road! All of these things really make a difference so Thank You x

Take care, Stay safe

Ruth X