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| Newsletter –  September 2022 | A picture containing text, vector graphics  Description automatically generated |
| Here we are again! How lovely to be back, building friendships and routines and getting to know our new families. Welcome into our pre-school community…. It’s a wonderful place to be!  New Friendships  **It is lovely to see new friendships blossoming. This often takes a while to really establish and develops usually between the ages of 3 and 4… so for some of our younger children, they are very happy playing alongside others and beginning to interact with their peers. If you’d like more information on this important stage of development please ask.**  **Routines**  **We have lots of routines to help us through our day… and I’m sure you will soon be singing along to “who’s the helper”, “Wake up, Shake up” and many more of our daily songs. We’re also pleased to introduce new routines that help our day to go smoothly. This year, we are encouraging the children to wash their hands for lunch and then call out ‘next please’ so we have a steady flow (and it doesn’t take 25 minutes for prepare for lunch 😉)…. This is working really well and the children are already understanding and remembering what they need to do. Here’s a little ‘timetable’ of our day….**  **8.45am gate open, arrival time**  **9.00am Wake up, Shake up starts, followed by Registration**  **10.00am Snack Station opens**  **10.30-10.40am Snack Station closes**  **11.45am hand washing and lunch**  **12.30pm aiming for lunch to finish**  **2.30pm tidy up and stock check**  **2.45pm story time, coats on**  **2.55pm gate open**  **3.00pm collection time**  **During the day, the children can free-flow between the classroom and the outdoor area, with set times for exploring the large playground (and beyond). While the children may choose their own areas to explore, there will be set activities to build on learning objectives, interests and development.**  **Staff try to capture key moments to record and assess in Famly, but this must not take us away from engaging and interacting with the children – you may see lots…. You may see only a few observations… but we hope these will help to give you a little insight into what we do every day as well as the progress your child is making and things that we, at pre-school, and you, at home can do to help.**  Would you like a paper copy of this newsletter? Just let us know | A few ‘tips’ to help you.  **Please feel free to queue in either direction at the gate in the morning – this is to prevent children walking in the road, and will also help to make the arrival process quicker.**  **Please remember that your child will need to bring their coloured book bag to pre-school every day. We use these bags to support independence in fetching their snack, storing pictures, recognising their name, and feeling ownership.**  **Please ensure that if you include any grapes or cherry tomatoes in lunchboxes that these are cut (along the length) as they are a serious choking hazard.**  **Please also ensure that you do not include nuts or any nut products – (including Nutella) as we have children with serious food allergies.**  **If you would like your child to change their borrowed book please hand it in (with the purple Book Journal) when your child arrives.**  **Please also hand in any letters, forms, payments, etc….. so staff do not have to rummage through upto 24 book bags!!**  **If you would like any other family members to have access to our Famly system, please let us know.**  Things you may have missed  **Have you joined our Story Sack scheme? Just £10 for the whole year.**  **Could you be a Reading Hero? Please ask for more information if you would like to volunteer to visit and read to small groups of children.**  **Funding Declarations will be sent home next week. Please complete and return as soon as possible.**  Exciting News!!  **The pre-school and primary school have some very exciting plans to refurbish the playground, to create a road for bikes and develop the current ‘wild patch’ and nature area and much more besides!! AND THERE’S MORE!!**  **We have been extremely fortunate in securing some grants to enable us to proceed with these plans, to purchase equipment and shelters… and we would like to thank the following organisations for their generous support.**  Thames Water  Thirsty Café  Marcham Village Shop  **We can’t wait to share more news and photographs as things develop!!**  **We are looking forward to the term ahead – it you have any questions about any aspect of pre-school life, please get in touch.**  Nicky, Marion, Angi, Nik and Lisa |