



# Stowupland Pre-School Newsletter & Curriculum Update

## Summer 2021

**Welcome back** to all children returning from lockdown and to our new starters. We hope you had a lovely Easter and got to spend some time with your families in the great outdoors! We want to thank all families for their understanding at this time as we continually ask you to drop off outside the setting to protect the staff and children at pre-school. We have introduced more staggered starts and need to be strict on these timings for our staffing ratio, so please only arrive a few moments before your time.

SUMMER WEATHER – We have purchased ‘Garnier Ambre Solaire Kids SPF 50+’ for use in the setting and we will be asking you to sign to say we can apply this to your child when needed.

## Summer Term Focus Book Selection

This term we are exploring the book ‘Superworm’. This has been based on the children’s interest and fascination with minibeasts! We have made a wormery, looked at bugs under a magnifier and been on numerous bug hunts.

Last term we planted seeds, which have already grown and are nearly ready to move from our greenhouse to the garden beds! This term we have just received our little caterpillars and we are beginning to watch them grow. Over the next few weeks we are hopeful the caterpillars will build a cocoon ready for their transition into a butterfly.



## School Leavers

Each week we will either update some ideas on Tapestry for you to complete at home or put some resources in your child’s bag. These are optional, but they do focus on certain skills in order to prepare your child for school, (these will include, mark-making, cutting, cooking, fine and gross motor skills, and maths). Each week we continue to focus on a weekly theme; this includes, numbers, shapes and sounds, and we explore these throughout the session and at group time. The ‘theme of the week’ will be posted on the front door.

## Covid-19

We continue to remain Covid Secure through various measures and procedures. We have staggered starts and ask parents to remain 2 metres apart. We ask parents to arrive on time for their sessions for us to keep all families safe. We will ask you to move aside if you arrive early. The staff complete 2 Lateral-flow tests weekly and we continue to wear face shields inside the building. We also continue with our vigorous cleaning schedule.

## Our team

For all the new families let me introduce the 8 members of staff at Stowupland Preschool:

**Kayleigh – Manager and Safeguarding Officer**  
**Hannah – Deputy Manager and Deputy Safeguarding Officer**  
**Lisa – Room Leader and SENCO**  
**Abi – Early Years Educator**  
**Shelia – Early Years Educator**  
**Ann – Early Years Educator**  
**Denise – Early Years Educator**  
**Kaylee – Early Years Educator**

## The Committee

The Preschool is run by a Committee of parents and you can find their names and photos on the board outside the setting. It is vital we have parent/carer support in order to keep the preschool open. Our Committee oversees the running of the setting and supports with lots of fundraising. If you have some free time and would be interested in finding out a little more about the Committee please speak to Kayleigh or Hannah.

If you would like to contact Sarah, our Chairperson her email address is [chairperson@stowuplandpreschool.org.uk](mailto:chairperson@stowuplandpreschool.org.uk)

## Fundraising Committee

### FUNDRAISING UPDATE - WHY FUNDRAISING IS SO IMPORTANT TO US

Some of our new families may not know, but as a charity we rely on fundraising to help towards buying new materials for our setting, so the children can flourish in their learning and play.

Our fundraising group are part of the Committee and they come up with ideas throughout the year. You will have no doubt seen or helped contribute towards their recent Easter activities.

- Going on a Bear Hunt sponsored walk - total raised: £150
- Easter Egg Raffle - total raised: £32.45
- Easter bunny visits - total raised: £151.11 - a massive thank you to Tesco who kindly donated Easter Eggs

We want to say a massive thank you to all those supporting our fundraising efforts and in-turn supporting the setting in making it the best it can be.

Every penny is going towards improving our outdoor garden space. We have plans to plant our vegetable patch shortly (with Woolpit Garden Centre kindly donating compost and seeds) and adding bird and bug boxes to encourage more wildlife into the garden. We hope that we will be able to invite parents in to look at our new and improved garden space later in the Summer.

For the remainder of the Spring/Summer Term, a calendar of events has been put together (see below). Please add these dates to your diary and look out for further information on Tapestry/Facebook over the coming months. Any support you can give to these events will be greatly appreciated. Our next event is May which will be all about BOOKS. Please support in whatever way you can.

Also, if you have any ideas for events - or would like to get involved - please let Kayleigh know.



## Facebook

We have a Facebook page for parents of the setting only. Please find us on Stowupland Preschool & the Mighty Oak Mums & Dads. You will need to be approved by myself and a declaration form will need to be signed.



## General Reminders

**As we come into warmer weather please remember to bring in a sun hat; our garden has little shade and its vital they are addressed in cool clothing, appropriate footwear and sunhats and drink bottles. It is possible to leave a NAMED sunhat at the setting where we will provide a basket so the children have easy access to this.**

**Please could you ensure that your child's lunchbox and drink bottle are clearly labelled with their name, to avoid mix-ups.**

**We encourage all children to make healthy choices at Lunch-Time; eating sandwiches and fruit/vegetables before snacks and treats. We also try to encourage children to try everything that you pack for them.**

**Please talk to us if you are finding that your child comes home with lots of food remaining in their boxes, and will do our best to find ways of encouraging them further at lunchtimes.**

**We respectfully remind parents to park in the Car Park at the Village Hall when dropping off and collecting their child from Pre-School. Parking in the School/Church layby is strictly not permitted at any time.**



**It is stated within our Attendance Policy that if your child is unwell please call or email the setting on 01449 678550 or [admin@stowuplandpreschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@stowuplandpreschool.org.uk) in the morning ideally before 8.30am.**

**COVID: if your child is presenting a new/continuous cough, temperature or loss of smell/taste please self-isolate and complete a COVID test, this can be requested through the GOV.Uk website or by phoning 119. A proof of the test results can be emailed to [admin@stowuplandpreschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@stowuplandpreschool.org.uk)**

## Tapestry

Tapestry is a fantastic way for the staff and you, to keep in contact by uploading pictures/videos of your children. Going forward we shall keep you updated with bulletins and news. We shall give you a weekly overview of all the activities we have been up to.

## Top-up

Some of you may be aware that the amount we receive for each funded child who attends our setting has dropped significantly. With this in mind, we ask parents for a 'top-up' towards the cost of the healthy snacks, resources, sun cream, wipes, etc which we provide at Pre-School. Stowupland Pre-School is a Committee run setting, which has charitable status. We are a non-profit organisation, and any profits we generate go directly towards the running of the Pre-School. **Thank You in advance.**

## TERM DATES

### Summer Term

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### May half Term

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021  
Preschool will reopen Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June

### Important Dates-

Parents evening – W/C 14<sup>th</sup> June (more details to follow)

Fathers Day – 20<sup>th</sup> June

School Leavers get-together – TBC