

Month						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

### Term Dates:

Mon 17th April - Fri 26th May - First half of Summer Term  
Fri 28th April - CLOSED for staff training  
Mon 1st May - CLOSED for Bank Holiday  
Mon 8th May - CLOSED for Coronation Bank Holiday  
Mon 29th May - 4th June - CLOSED for Half Term Break  
Second half of Summer Term - Mon 5th June - Thurs 20th July

### Dates for your Diary:

Mon 24th April - Library Bus (p.m.)  
Mon 24th - 27th April - Safety Week (p.ms)  
Mon 1st May - Closed - Bank Holiday  
Fri 5th May - Coronation Events (morning and afternoon)  
Mon 8th May - Closed - Bank Holiday  
Tues 9th May - 11.15 a.m. - 12 p.m. - West Sussex Early Help Visit  
Fri 12th May - Dinosaur Day (morning and afternoon)  
Weds 24th & Thurs 25th May - Photographer in (morning and afternoon)  
Fri 26th May - May Day Dancing (p.m.)

### Safety Week - 24th—27th April

This week we will be looking at keeping ourselves safe with our older children. The topics we are covering will include sun safety, road safety, internet safety, stranger danger and personal safety.

To impart some of these messages in a child friendly way we use our Touch n Tilt computer table to show 'YouTube' appropriate songs and stories. Some we will use that you may want to check out yourselves are:

The Slip, Slop, Slap - Sid the Seagull Song - Sun Safety  
Hedgehog Road Safety Campaign  
NSPCC—Pantasaurus and his Pants - Personal Safety  
Smarty the Penguin - Internet Safety

### Coronation Events - Fri 5th May - a.m. & p.m.

Children can wear red, white and blue if they wish today and we will be celebrating with some special cakes at snack time / flags / crown making. We will be enjoying an outdoor (if possible) lunch and inviting some residents of Darlington Court to join us. Please only provide healthy items e.g. a sandwich, fruit / yogurt in lunchboxes as we will also be providing some yummy Coronation cakes as part of our lunch.



## West Sussex Early Help Visit - 9th May - 11.15am - 12pm

Sue and Justine from Early Help will be setting up outside to promote this West Sussex service. They often bring freebies along. If you are picking up from the morning session, please come a little early if you can, as they would love to chat to as many families as possible. Ditto, if you're dropping off for the afternoon, maybe come a little earlier. Of course, any parents are welcome to turn up during this time to find out what this really useful service has to offer.

## Dinosaur Day - Fri 12th May

All day today the children will have the chance to participate in some fun dinosaur inspired activities. If your child has any dinosaur clothes etc. then please let them wear these today or perhaps you are a talented face painter and could transform them into a mini T-Rex!



## Photographer - Weds 24th & Thurs 25th May - All Day

If your child is not in on these 2 days but you would like them to be photographed, then please see Sue or a member of staff and we will suggest a mutually suitable time for you to bring them in (siblings welcome if available).

## May Day Dance at St Margaret's School - Fri 26th May (p.m.)

A separate letter will follow but this is open to all afternoon children. They will need to be dressed as a Pirate for the dance this year.

## Book Bags

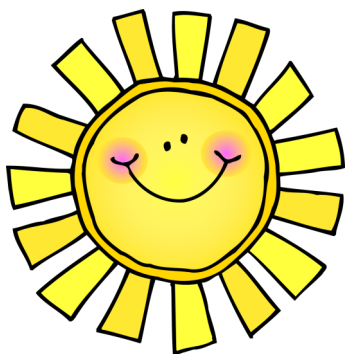
Sadly, this year we have found many children are not bringing in their book bags on a regular basis—or even at all. We have an enormous selection from which the children can choose and it's a great opportunity to have some new bedtime / quiet time stories to share together. We will ask for the book bags to be returned in the last week or so of the Summer Term, to be recycled for next year but we still have nearly a whole term to go so if you have got out of the habit, please look out for your child's bag and use our resources.

## Snack Time

All children that attend morning sessions are offered a healthy mid-morning snack with either milk or water to accompany. We use Angmering Greens each week to support our local community but also top up with cheese, fruit loaf etc. We ask for a voluntary monetary contribution towards the payment of this. Thank you to those that have been doing this but the contributions were extremely low last term. The 'Snack Pot' is outside our front doors and cash can be popped in or you can pay a contribution via bank transfer using the details below and the reference 'SNACK':

Sort Code: 30-95-09      Acc Number: 00626350      Acc Name: William Older Playgroup

All small amounts add up and enable us to use our funds for other lovely activities and experiences for your children so very much appreciated.



## Summer Weather

We are very much hoping for some Spring / early Summer sunshine after a gloomy and damp first few months of this year. Some reminders for when the sun does appear:

- Please apply a high factor (preferably factor 50) sun cream to your child before they arrive at Play-group. If they are old enough to re-apply and are in all day then we would suggest a named bottle in their rucksacks.
- A named sunhat should also come with them.
- Short sleeves are preferable to strappy girls' tops as their shoulders can catch the sun very quickly.
- Summer shoes that they can run, climb and explore in (preferably not flip flops or Crocs)

We always have sun cream on the premises and would reapply our own if we feel they were at risk of burning rather than deny them access to the outdoors but the expectation is on the parents to have already applied protection. Thank you in advance as are so many lovely outdoor opportunities for the children here that we really encourage them to use our outdoor space.

## Fees

Our fees are as competitive as possible but have remained at the same rate for many years now. Unfortunately, we will need to raise them to £5.50 per hour from September 2023. That means if you are paying for a 3 hour session it will be £16.50 and a whole day would be £33.00.

## School Transition Hour

This year we have continued to work with St Margaret's to provide as many transition opportunities as possible. These benefit all children going into a Reception Year, regardless what school they will attend.

Starting from Tuesday 25th April, we will have an hour between 1.15 and 2.15 p.m. that our older children and St Margaret's Reception classes can free flow between each other's environments. This gives a relaxed opportunity for children to see that reception is very much like what they are used to, with small tables, chairs and toilets, plenty of free flow play and nice teachers!

Our staff split between our area and theirs. It would be lovely to have a parent volunteer or 2 a week to support this activity. If you would like to do this, either for the hour or whole afternoon, then please fill in the attached slip and return A.S.A.P.

## And Finally...

For children in their last year with us, you should now know which school they will attend in September. So that we can put in the best possible transition plans for them, please fill in the slip on the reverse of this page and return to us A.S.A.P.



## Transitions



Looking forward to welcoming the sunshine with you all!

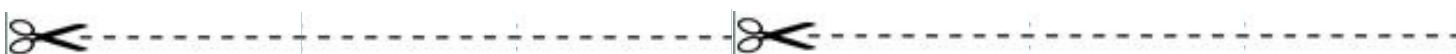
*Sue & the Team*

My child \_\_\_\_\_.

Has been allocated \_\_\_\_\_ school to attend from  
September 2023.

Please advise of anything else you'd like to tell us regarding this allocation:

\_\_\_\_\_



I would like to volunteer to help out at the School Transition Hour on a Tuesday afternoon.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Parent / Carer of \_\_\_\_\_