



Rainbow Pre-School & Extended Services NEWSLETTER

September/October 2024

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2024

- 25th October 2024 - End of half term
- 28th – 1st Nov 2024 - Holiday Club-EAST
- 4th Nov 2024 – Teacher Training Day
- 5th Nov 2024 – Back to School
- 13th Nov 2024 – East Parents Evening
- 14th Nov 2024 – West Parents Evening
- 15th Nov 2024 – Children in Need
- 12th Dec 2024 – Save the Children
- Christmas Jumper Day
- 7th December 2024 – Children’s Christmas Party
- 20th December 2024 – End of Term

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome all of our new and existing families to our pre-school for the new academic year. We have been busy settling in all the new children, and it has been wonderful getting to know everyone.

In our half termly newsletters you can expect to find information about the learning and development topics we are focusing on, updates about the setting, new research and guidance and important messages for parents.

EXCITING NEWS

We are pleased to announce that as part of the National Wrap Around Care programme, we are working with Central Beds Council to expand the service we already provide.

As many of you will know during the past 12 months we have been oversubscribed for our breakfast and after school club sessions and we have not been able to accept all booking requests. However, we anticipate that from the start of the next half term, we will have additional premises within the grounds of St Andrews which will mean that we will be able to accommodate at least 40 additional children at both breakfast and after school club. We are currently working on the finer details and recruiting additional members of staff. We will keep you updated, but we are sure that you are as pleased as we are about these exciting developments.

Useful Information

The contact details for both sites are below. All enquiries should be directed to the Admin Office on the West site. If you need to speak with a staff member at the East site your call will be transferred.

West site:

Rainbow Pre-school & Extended Services
Nursery Building, St Andrews CofE VC Primary School
Brunts Lane, Biggleswade, SG18 0LY

East site:

Rainbow Pre-school & Extended Services
St Andrews CofE VC Primary School
Bantock Way, Kings Reach, Biggleswade, SG18 8UQ

Website: <http://www.rainbowpre-schoolbiggleswade.co.uk/welcome>

Email: enquiries@rainbow-preschool.co.uk

Tel: 01767 310230

Our bank details for payment of fees are as follows:

Barclays Bank Account - Rainbow Pre-School & Extended Services
Account No: 03715140 Sort Code: 20-74-81

PLEASE USE YOUR CHILDS FULL NAME AS THE REFERENCE ACCOMPANYING YOUR BANK TRANSFER TO ALLOW US TO ALLOCATE YOUR PAYMENTS TO THE CORRECT ACCOUNT, WITHOUT

THESE DETAILS YOUR ACCOUNT MAY APPEAR TO FALL INTO ARREARS!

If you are making Hot Lunch payments using cash or cheque, your money should be placed in a named envelope with the amount & information about what the payment relates to.

Updates

- Please remember to name all items of clothing (coats/hats/scarves/ jumpers/ jackets). It is very difficult to ensure all children get their exact items when they are not named as many children have similar clothing. Rainbow Preschool & Extended Services will NOT be held responsible for missing items.
- Please ensure the children wrap up warm as the weather is becoming cooler.
- A reminder that we are a nut and popcorn free setting due to allergies and risk of choking. If your child has an item in their lunch box containing nuts or popcorn, then it will be replaced with something from the setting and will be sent home. To confirm, an allergen will be listed in **bold** if it contains it as an ingredient. "May contain" does not mean it is an ingredient.
- Always check the notice boards and EYLog for updates, training course information for parents and other messages.

Accreditations

According to the Department for Education, *“Tooth decay is largely preventable, but it’s still a serious problem among young children. The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities oral health survey of 5-year-old children 2022 and Public Health England oral health survey of 3-year-old children 2020 found that:*

- *nearly a quarter of 5-year-olds in England have tooth decay, affecting 3 to 4 teeth on average*
- *11% of 3-year-olds in England have visible tooth decay, affecting 3 teeth on average”*

We place a lot of emphasis on oral health in the settings and take part in the My Smile programme where the 3–4-year-old children brush their teeth once a day in the setting. Look out for more guidance and support as we move through the year.

In 2023, we achieved the **Healthy Child- Healthy Workforce** accreditation. This accreditation highlights the emphasis we place on both the children and the staff’s well-being. We underwent further training to develop our knowledge and understanding of how families can be affected by trauma, supporting the Five to Thrive learning model and developing our Physical and Nutritional Coordinator (PANCO) programme.



Physical Wellbeing

As part of our PANCO programme we have implemented the following:

- Trained PANCOs on site.
- Half termly Focus Foods - we focus on 3 different seasonal foods each half term for both tasting and play to inform children of the more unusual foods that they may not recognise daily. Our focus foods this half term are parsnips, pumpkins and lychees.



- Weekly exercise sessions delivered by personal trainer Emily Emerson.
- Using exercises for the Healthy Movers programme in our daily routines.

These are additional measures we have implemented to the free flow access to the outdoor areas throughout the day and free movement around the setting.

Learning and Development

This half term we are focusing on **All About Me**. At the start of term, it is important that we quickly come to understand everything we can about the children and work closely with them to ensure they settle in well. We are also introducing the season of **Autumn** and will be looking at upcoming **holidays and festivals** celebrated by the children in the setting. We use the children’s individual learning (next steps) and their interests to guide our activities. In line with the Fundamental British Values, we have 6 **core values** that we focus on with the children as a way of teaching them how we expect them to behave. We discuss these at group times and throughout the day with the children. These include:

- Respect (we are kind)
- Collaborative (we work together)
- Listen (we listen carefully)
- Passion (we always try our best)
- Awe-Inspiring (we try new and exciting things)
- Reflective (we think about how to do things better)

Look out for observations and updates on EYLog about your child.

Home Learning Challenge:

Every half term, your child will be sent home with an activity book with a home learning challenge stuck inside. The aim is for you to complete these activities with your child and record the evidence in your child’s activity book. These will be activities that will enhance your child’s learning and development at home. When you have completed the activity, please send your child’s activity book in before the end of the half term so that they can celebrate this with their key group before we move on to other topics in the next half term.

Emotional Wellbeing

In the settings we have our cosy reading corners which are filled with soft and cosy cushions, rugs and blankets. We have sensory toys and a range of stories, both fiction and non-fiction linked to our focus’s this half term. Our staff are trained in using the Five to Thrive approach (more guidance to be shared throughout the year) to support children to recognise and understand their feelings and how to manage them.

Hot Lunches

Please ensure you complete our Hot Lunch Booking Form, which can be found on our website. All forms need to be completed and returned to us **NO LATER THAN 9.00am THE FRIDAY BEFORE THE BOOKING**. Please ensure that the correct **CASH** or a **CHEQUE** is also given and put into a sealed envelope with your child’s name.