

KIDS CLUB

NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2018

Our Journey so far...

Welcome to our half termly newsletter. By the time you read this you will have booked your future places via Magic Booking. The Go live went smoothly and in the main the feedback we have received about the system has been very good. We have had very few parents needing support but where they did between us we have managed to cover queries quickly and we've had a presence in the clubs helping parents navigate the system including some of our parent Committee members and Chair (Andrew and Alex). As the system is parent led this means there is very little admin to be done, we have a more flexible 24/7 real time booking system and our staff can focus their time on the children rather than administration. Less paper is good for the environment too!

New Faces

We'd like to welcome **Emma Thackery** and **Tomiya Kubo** to our permanent staff. Emma is an Early Years Practitioner with many years working with 4 and 5 year olds and EYFS standards, she also ran an all age Holiday Club. Tomiya is a sports enthusiast, experienced outdoor pursuits and white water rafting instructor !

Snow Closures

We are very sorry that we have had a few occasions where we have had to close because of the snow, whenever school closes, we have to close as we provide wrap around care that we can't extend. We only get to find out school isn't opening just before our parents do and we have to be ready to open from 7.30 am this is a tricky balance when over half of our staff do not live locally. Our staff have been making great efforts getting up at 5.30am in some cases, abandoning their cars on their way to work and walking in to be able to open our breakfast clubs. Staff have given up their day off if they live locally and others have been getting home very late as they make their own way home through the snow. We will always communicate about anything that affects our club opening through Magic Booking, our priority has always been and will always be to remain open.

Why Cancelling Places is Important

We are really grateful to our parents who have been cancelling sessions they don't need, we are a busy club and we can't carry surplus places for last minute adhoc bookings which we all need from time to time. By cancelling sessions you don't need it frees up adhoc spaces for others that you might need one day. Our staff also spend a significant amount of time each session trying to trace (junior) children who haven't turned up to club, it is a safeguarding requirement that we have a short window to report a child who is genuinely missing, school do tell us if your child hasn't been in school that day but they won't know if they've gone on play date for example.

Early Drop Offs

We are sometimes asked why parents can't drop their children off earlier than 7.40am if staff seem to be in the club already. We aren't insured for children to be on the premises before (or after) our session times, we must have at least 2 adults present to open the club and close it (a safeguarding and insurance requirement). We also need the 10 minutes when our staff arrive before opening to conduct and record our daily risk assessment to make sure the environment is safe (a Health and Safety requirement).



What We've Been Doing at Infants – Early Years Foundation

Our Early Years topic is transport and journeys, we are making car masks, we are going to have a map of the world where the children can mark where they've been or are going to visit and where they or their parents were born. We've got a huge world map jigsaw to do and we are making traffic light biscuits with icing and smarties. We are going to make suitcase books showing what the children will pack when they travel and where they would like to go.

Our Infant children have been making some colourful masks and flags of the world. We're going to make indoor obstacle courses and felt purses/wallets. We'll be celebrating Easter by making Easter cards and flower crafts. We are very much looking forward to our Easter egg hunt!



Holiday Club

We aim to have the next Holiday Club programme on Magic Booking at least a half term in advance from now on and earlier where we can. All bookings and payments including Holiday Club are made via Magic Booking. The high level programme is on the system, the detailed programme is on our website <http://www.ecclesallkids.club/ekc/>



CAR MASKS



DECOUPAGE



ROSE BATH SALTS



WANDS

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What We've Been Doing and are Going to do Next at Juniors



We've been playing our home made version of tabletop Quidditch, it's amazing what you can make out of large plastic coke bottles ! We are making blanket squares and we'll soon be putting them together to make a cuddle blanket for the club. We have made gorgeous decoupage boxes and Himalayan Rose bath salt gifts for Mother's Day. We are celebrating St Patricks Day swapping our snacks for Irish snacks such as yummy soda bread. We will be looking to celebrate St Georges Day with Knights and Dragons activities.

Farewell and Good Luck to our Y6 Children Who are Leaving us

We are saying goodbye to some of our Y6 children as they start to make their own way home in preparation for their move to Secondary School. We'd be grateful if you could let us know your wishes on this and give permission via Magic Booking. Some parents only want their child to walk home some of the nights they are with us, some wish their child to stay for an hour and then make their way home etc. Some children also get confused about whether they are supposed to make their way home especially if their friends are. Whilst we'll be very sad to see the children go it does mean we have a few more junior places until Summer if you need them.