WASPS Out of School Club

A warm and safe environment where children aged 3 to 13 learn, grow and have fun!

NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2021

Apologies for not putting together a newsletter before now, but as you can imagine things have been slightly hectic since reopening on March 8th this year. I am hoping you have all had a lovely Easter and although strange weather conditions we have had an extremely busy and successful Easter Play Scheme. Thank you to Pippa’s Dad for buying cookies and cakes for all the children and staff for Easter. This was much appreciated and enjoyed by all!

**Important Covid Reminders**

As soon as your child or any member of your household develops symptoms, they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

• high temperature

• new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours

• loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you’re not sure whether symptoms suggest that they have COVID-19 or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult this online NHS symptom checker: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

**Please do not send children back to WASPS or school if any of the following apply**:

• they have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

• they, any members of your household, or any close contacts (including extended family or friends they have seen and bubbles at holiday activities and sports clubs) have tested positive for COVID-19

• they haven’t completed the full isolation period requested

**Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff**

Please follow the link to find out more about home testing for those without symptoms and your nearest kit collection point if you wish to participate in this. This is for adults only and not for Primary aged pupils.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-schoolpupils-and-staff>

**Symptoms or positive cases**

If your child develops symptoms or tests positive for Coronavirus, please inform WASPS Out of School Club by email on [nicola@waspsclub.com](mailto:nicola@waspsclub.com) or by text on 07904391133.

Thank you as always for your support, encouragement and patience with all the changes and restrictions we have as we try to ensure safety and wellbeing for everyone that attends our clubs. After the latest update from the Government there are currently no changes to update you on for the way that we operate and will continue to keep children in groups of no more than 15 until these restrictions are lifted. Staff will continue to take twice weekly lateral flow tests we expect up until the end of May so that we can ensure our own and the children’s safety as much as we can.

COUNCIL DISCRETIONARY GRANT

I applied for a council discretionary grant and am pleased to say they gave me some money!! I applied to replace some of the tired and worn toys and add to the outside play equipment to encourage more outside play. The children have been asked what they would like and we have purchased some footballs, frisbees, tunnels, sports day equipment, Monster High dolls, Sylvanian Families, snap circuits and craft supplies. I am so excited to buy new resources for the children as I usually do this by saving up over the year but due to being closed was unable to save the money this time around.

STAFF NEWS

Rebecca Plumb and Sarah Rhodes have started their Level 2 in Early Years practice and are enjoying the challenge.

Some staff are still on flexible furlough hours and do not come in for some sessions or leave earlier than normal if they are not needed for the remainder of the session due to lack of numbers. We are hoping as numbers increase they will slowly come off the flexible furlough hours.

Izabella Dukat and myself have completed our refresher Paediatric First Aid Training and staff are adding to their CPD by completing online courses.

INVOICES

As you will now be aware, we have all details on our database and are able to generate invoices from there. On the invoices it has the sessions that you are being charged for so if there are any changes please make sure you inform us. Also, with regards to invoices please be aware that in your contract it does say that invoices are due to be paid by the first of that month at the latest. As per your contract you will be charged £1 per day until you pay that invoice.

Also please remember that if you go over your contracted time for After School Club or bring children in before their contracted time for Breakfast Club, then you will be charged the higher fee which is less than 1 weeks’ notice as per your contract.

PLAY SCHEME

Easter Play Scheme has been a success and we had sessions that were fully booked which has been excellent. We have already received bookings for the Summer Play Scheme which is for the last 3 weeks of August. If you require a booking form, please let me know.

CLUBS AFTER EASTER

If your child will be attending any Starlight Stars classes at the Community Centre after Easter can you please inform me so that I can add them to the drop off and collection lists for staff ASAP. Thank you.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO INFORM US

Please remember that we stop serving breakfast at 8.00am at present due to the need to pack away and clean before we leave the building and SPINS Nursery enter at 08.30am. This is the only way we are able to open both business alongside each other at present. Any children that arrive after this time will not be offered breakfast unless there are any cereal bars left. This is simply because all children need to be in the foyer at 8.30am to get ready for School and everything in the hall and kitchen must be put away and locked up to allow SPINS Nursery to set up for their session.

Also, we are having lots of occasions where parents are not informing us that their child or children are not attending a session with us. This is the reason we have on our contracts £2 charge for not informing us.

In the afternoons we nearly always need to wait to get the School secretary to ring the parent or Teacher and ask where a child is and why WASPS have not been informed. On a couple of occasions, we have been close to ringing the Police as the child has not been accounted for. Please ensure you let us know if your child or children are going to be absent from a session by text or email please so that we have something in writing. Sometimes we are asked by the School to show them proof that a child is not with us when they are supposed to be. The safety of your child is always our main priority. Where we drive to School to collect children this can also mean that we can sometimes send 2 vehicles when it is just not needed so again just a text, email or phone call will help to deploy staff where they are needed. Thank you in advance.

ACCIDENT NOTIFICATIONS

Please be aware that if your child has an accident or if we have issues with behaviour, we will send out a PDF document with the details on to you by email. We have been using this system almost 2 years now and is being used to cut down on the amount of paper that is used and to make generating reports and keeping an eye on behaviour and accidents between children much easier to monitor. As this will be sent by email as it happens, please ensure that the email address we hold on file is always correct. By sending these electronically, we have a timestamp, so we can see when these are sent to parents and let them know the time should you not receive a notification in your inbox. If for some reason the internet is not working, then you will be asked to sign a paper copy of the accident when you collect your child.

SCOOTERS

Please be aware that if you take your child to Roger de Clare School in the mornings and leave their scooter there, we are unable to allow them to bring them back with them to After School Club in the afternoons. This is because with children, bags, lunchboxes, water bottles and 2 separate groups of children along with 2 days with no lollipop crossing we cannot have scooters as well for safety purposes.

RESOURCES NEEDED

Thank you so much for the resources that you give us when your children no longer play with them. Our toys are forever being broken or simply worn out so anything that you give us is always appreciated.

Please remember us when you are looking at taking toys to the charity shop or throwing away. Children love new toys and they are so expensive to replace.

We are always looking for paper, pens and craft items as well as toys. We could do with replacing barbies accessories and clothes, polly pocket clothes, baby clothes and pushchair, paw patrol figures and lego friends which are just some of the items needed at present.

IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS

I am constantly looking at new ways for WASPS to ensure we cater for what parents changing needs are going forwards. Please feel free to email me or call me with ideas and suggestions for changes to suit your needs. If we have enough of you asking for the same thing then we will look at it and decide as a team if we can accommodate these ideas and suggestions.

We are also looking at new ways to help children catch up with their School work and an idea of a type of homework club has been discussed with staff and they have agreed this would be a huge benefit. This may be something we speak to Schools about to see if there would be a demand for in the area. I have already spoken to the Management Committee and they said that I could have the use of the Lounge Bar for this. Obviously we would need to cover the cost of the hire of the room and staff to cover but if enough people want to use this facility then the cost would be minimum.

Another idea is to involve our local community more with the children and invite members of the community in with skills and hobbies that would interest the children to help enhance the children’s knowledge and possibly teach them things they do not already know how to do. Children have been asked to produce posters to ask for help and this will be advertised on Facebook to ask for members of the community to come and give a talk or a free taster session of their skills within a safe environment. Obviously we would need to look at risk assessments and ensure COVID guidelines are met but once we are able to allow adults in the building again this would be easier. Until then anything would need to be outside only. Some things the children are already asking for help with are learning how to draw, use their imagination better, be able to cook pizza, learn to sing and dance and also learn sign language. Again any feedback or ideas and suggestions would be great from you all.

TERM DATE REMINDERS

We reopen on Tuesday 13th April normal times and our last day of term will be Thursday 27th May. Remember we are closed for May Day on Monday 3rd May, closed as the hall is being used for the Elections on Thursday 6th May and closed on Friday 28th May due to an Inset Day. These dates have been taken off your May invoice.

OPENING AND CLOSING DATES

Tuesday 13th April – Friday 30th April

Tuesday 4th May – Wednesday 5th May

Friday 7th May – Thursday 27th May

Monday 7th June – Wednesday 21st July (1.15pm Collection RC/1.30pm ST/1.30pm RS/3.20 J)

***PLAY SCHEME – Monday 9th August – Friday 13th August (08.00am-6.00pm)***

***PLAY SCHEME – Monday 16th August – Friday 20th August (08.00am-6.00pm)***

***PLAY SCHEME – Monday 23rd August – Friday 27th August (08.00am-6.00pm)***

Thursday 2nd September – Friday 22nd October

***PLAY SCHEME Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October (08.00am-6.00pm)***

Monday 1st November – Thursday 2nd December

Monday 6th December – Tuesday 21st December (1.15pm Collection RC/1.30pm ST/1.30pm RS)

**2022**

Thursday 6th January – Friday 11th February

***PLAY SCHEME Monday 14th February - Friday 18th February(08.00am-6.00pm)***

Monday 21st February – Friday 1st April (1.15pm Collection RC/1.30pm ST/1.30pm RS/12.15 J)

***PLAY SCHEME Monday 4th April – Friday 8th April (08.00am-6.00pm)***

***PLAY SCHEME – Monday 11th April – Thursday 14th April (08.00am-6.00pm)***

Wednesday 20th April – Friday 29th April

Tuesday 3rd May – Wednesday 4th May

Friday 6th May – Thursday 26th May

Monday 6th June – Thursday 21st July (1.15pm Collection RC/1.30pm ST/1.30pm RS/3.20 J)

***PLAY SCHEME – Monday 8th August – Friday 12th August (08.00am-6.00pm)***

***PLAY SCHEME – Monday 15th August – Friday 19th August (08.00am-6.00pm)***

***PLAY SCHEME – Monday 22nd August – Friday 26th August (08.00am-6.00pm)***

We will be **closed** on the following dates

**2021**

Friday 2nd April (Good Friday)

Monday 5th April (Easter Monday)

Monday 12th April (RC, RS, J, ST Inset Day)

Monday 3rd May (May Day)

Thursday 6th May (Hall Closed for Elections)

Friday 28th May (RC, RS Inset Day)

Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June (Whitsun)

Thursday 22nd July – Friday 6th August (Summer Holidays)

Monday 30th August (Bank Holiday)

Tuesday 31st August (ST, RS, J Inset Day)

Friday 3rd December (RS, J, RC Occasional Day)

Wednesday 22nd December – Wednesday 5th January (Christmas Holidays)

**2022**

Friday 15th April (Good Friday)

Monday 18th April (Easter Monday)

Tuesday 19th April (RS, ST Inset Day)

Monday 2nd May (May Day)

Thursday 5th May (Hall Closed for Elections)

Friday 27th May (RC, RS Inset Day)

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June (Whitsun)

Friday 22nd July – Friday 5th August (Summer Holidays)

PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE DATES MAY ALTER SLIGHTLY IF SCHOOLS INTRODUCE MORE INSET OR OCCASIONAL DATES FOR 2021/2022

CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Mobile: 07904 391133 (Nicola keeps), 2nd Mobile: 07500 665439 (Kept at hall)

Email: [nicola@waspsclub.com](mailto:nicola@waspsclub.com)

Website: [www.waspsclub.com](http://www.waspsclub.com)

Facebook: WASPS Out of School Club