



Newsletter

Welcome to a new school year at TimTin!

We have had a busy summer holiday and those of you who are returning will notice a few changes in the outdoor area! The old playhouse has gone - a planned change as its condition was deteriorating rapidly. The large cherry tree has also gone - which was not planned - but as it was taking itself down in stages it had to go for safety reasons!

We are planning a new notice board on the garage front for parent information because we are going to continue the drop off at the bottom of the ramp for the foreseeable future. We have found this is much less stressful on the whole for children, parents and staff. It ensures the cloakroom area remains less crowded, is less overwhelming for the children and has free access for emergencies. Unfortunately, we, (Sarah!), haven't got the notice board organised in time for the beginning of term - apologies for this - it is high up on the to-do list!

Some of you may have heard there is a new Early Years Framework for pre-school children. We therefore have to change the way we work. It is aimed at reducing paperwork and recognising the staff knowledge of the children's development. We will not, therefore, be keeping files for each child, but will be using the children's diary to record any observations, help track their progress and keep information flowing between staff and parents. They will remain a joint TimTin / parent document but it is important it attends TimTin with your child! To assist in this we have purchased book bags for the children to transport the diaries between home and TimTin. The bags will replace the trays the children had in the entrance hall, so all their work and any letters or leaflets we are unable to email, will be put in the bags (if it fits!). It will also get the children used to using a book bag ready for when they move on to school.

We are continuing to use broad themes to plan activities around and this term it is 'All about me'. We would welcome input from you as with this topic, family and home is obviously a major part of who the children are!

It is important that children have a pair of named wellington boots with them at TimTin as the outdoors is an important part of our day - and the grass is usually very wet and the mud pit very muddy. A change of clothes is also a priority, as our supplies are limited. Please do not send your children in clothes that you do not want to get dirty - our paints are supposed to be washable - but in practise some colours in particular do stain. We do have uniform tops (new and hand second) available if you would prefer to keep your child's non-TimTin clothing separate. As they are navy blue, they do hide the stains very well! (although several staff now have lovely bleach stains from all the sanitising we have to do now!)

The last day of term is Thursday 21st October returning on Monday 1st November 2021. Holiday club will be open from Friday 22nd October to Friday 29th October. Places can be booked for holiday club, but we do not automatically keep places for playgroup children. This means you will not be charged over the holidays unless you book a place.

Please do not hesitate to approach a member of staff if you have any questions or concerns. If we don't know the answer we will endeavour to find out to allay any worries.

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