

Wow it’s the Easter holidays already! It has been such a busy half term within the setting. The children really enjoyed heading on the bus trip along with visiting the garden centre. We have started visiting our preschool garden and will be continuing after half term. We have lots of seeds planted and are looking forward to watching them grow. Fingers crossed we will be able to enjoy some of our own grown fruit and vegetables at snack time!!

It has been lovely to see Mrs Swan join us from Selby Class this half term. The children were really excited to meet their new teacher and showed her the ropes when she came in. I have spoken to Miss White who is arranging for the children to spend a day in Selby class after the Summer half term.

What is happening next half term?

Following on from our garden visits the children have taken a particular interest in Snails, Ladybirds and Spiders. We will be following their interests and looking at minibeasts. I wonder where this will lead us?



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Linking into our Smart Start library which will be running after half term I have planned for the children to visit Selby Library. As a part of the visit the children will be read a story by the librarian who will also talk a little bit about the library and how to borrow books. The visit will take place week commencing 13th May and a separate letter will follow with further details.

Parent meetings will take place between Tuesday May 8th to Friday 11th and I will be posting on Bloomz to invite you to choose a slot that is convenient.

Staffing

Many of you have noticed that we have started to advertise for a Deputy Manager and have been asking if any staff are leaving. Sadly, Toni has decided after 5 years with Smart Start that it is time for her to take on a new challenge. I know she will be greatly missed by myself, the staff team and the children. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work and dedication to Smart Start. We wish her well for the future. Toni’s last day with us will be Friday 17th May. Please be reassured that there will be a smooth transition for the children that Toni has in her key group. We are currently recruiting and will keep you updated with staff changes.

Smart Start Development

As a part of our self evaluation process as a setting, myself and the committee have been looking at how we include parents views with the setting. As part of this we will be introducing a parent box that will be available to make suggestions if you wish to do so. During the next few weeks you will also receive by email a questionnaire to fill in. We appreciate your support with this and look forward to receiving your responses.

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Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who came along and joined us for the Easter Scavenger Hunt. It was lovely to see so many parents join us. ‘Guess how many eggs in the jar’ raised £15. Well done to the children who took part in ’ Ready Steady Listen week and we raised a massive £110 which has allowed us to order £200 worth of Usbourne books. We are looking forward to sharing them with the children.

Hot Weather

Please can all children bring in a labelled sun hat and sun cream after the holidays so we are prepared for the hot weather if it finally arrives!! Could we ask on the hot days that children have sun cream applied before they arrive at Smart Start and we will then reapply during the session.



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Toys from home

Please could we ask that children do not bring in toys from home as it is difficult to prevent them getting lost and we can’t be responsible if anything gets broken.

I think that is it for now. Have a lovely Easter everyone and as always if there is anything you need please do not hesitate to speak to me within the session or I am contactable by email at [wistowsmartstart@gmail.com](mailto:wistowsmartstart@gmail.com).



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Emma Brearley

Pre-school Manager

Dates for your diary

Smart Start re open Tuesday 30th April 2019

Closed for Local Election Thursday 2nd May 2019

Break up for Summer half term Friday 24th 2019