



Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Learning and Development Update**

We are now entering a one-week topic exploring Beltane, the Pagan celebration of Earth's fertility. We are spending most of our day outdoors, so we will have lots of opportunities for traditions such as nature crafts, storytelling, dance, yoga and Beltane fires.

You can extend this learning at home by exploring your garden or other outdoor areas. You could make stick houses for fairies to visit and make up stories to inspire imagination and creativity. Our maths focus is number counting objects (and for older friends matching quantity with the number), this can be explored in a fun way outside using leaves, flowers, stones and sticks. Together with your child you could use vocabulary to describe colours, shapes, compare sizes and quantities.

Our May topic is 'Local and Community History'. June focus is the Wildlife Trusts '30 Days Wild'.

We are setting new targets for the children's individual learning and development journeys. Please let us know if there is any specific focus you would like for your child's targets, so we can work in partnership with you. We are aiming to chat to as many of our families as possible, also to find out what your child's interests are at home. Please feel free to add any news or photos on Tapestry. Your observations help us create a better picture of your child's learning journey and we also enjoy chatting with them about what they have been doing at home.

We have begun a focussed teaching approach with the school risers for mark making, phonics and numeracy. Small group work of adult led table tasks will help prepare them for school.

### **School Transition**

All our friends transitioning to school in September 2021 should now have received their allocated places. The teachers from Tywardreath School have arranged the following transition dates:

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Foundation stage teachers to visit the children at pre-school.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Children will visit the foundation stage class and teachers at school.

Other Tywardreath School transition dates, including the details for the starting school meeting, will be posted or emailed to parents shortly.

For our friends that are not moving on to Tywardreath School, I will speak with parents and find out your child's transition arrangements.

We are hoping that later in the term we will be able to move forest school to Tywardreath School field, which we have offered as a pre-school in the summer term from 2015 – 2019. We were unable to run the sessions last year, due to Coronavirus restrictions. If this goes ahead, all school risers (going to any school) will be welcome to attend. As soon as I have more details, I will let you know.

## **Outings and Adventures**

Now educational trips guidance has been relaxed, we have planned some outings and outdoor adventures, as part of our 'Cultural Capital' experiences. These will be dotted in between forest school and beach school sessions. Some dates are still being confirmed. Please let us know if you would like your child to opt out of any visits. As we have consent for outings and travel already, we will not be issuing individual consent forms for trips. We will advise you on the day at drop off of any specific outings.

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Wednesday group visit to Par Community Garden, to set up a fairy house we will make and look at all the different plants.

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday group visit to Par Community Garden.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Wednesday group visit 'Bird Lady of Fowey', where we will meet lots of different feathered friends. Followed by a play in Fowey park.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Friday group visit 'Bird Lady of Fowey' and Fowey park.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Kixx Football fun session. This will be held on a field in Tywardreath. For Tuesday morning friends only (sorry, we were given a one-off limited space session).

We are in the process of booking dates for a private visit to Fowey Aquarium and on the same day we will take the ferry to Polruan. We have done this trip in previous years, it is always a favourite.

When we know about possible relocation of forest school to Tywardreath School after May, we will be able to make some plans for the rest of term and communicate this to you as soon as possible.

## **Invoices**

Apologies for the delay with the April invoices. I decided to actually have two weeks off at Easter and now my 'to do list' is very lengthy!

## **Coronavirus Update**

All adults in the UK are now eligible for coronavirus lateral flow home tests. The government is encouraging everyone to test twice a week. You can have them sent to your home address, by registering online using the government website [Regular rapid coronavirus \(COVID-19\) tests if you do not have symptoms - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus/covid-19/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests)

The tests are easy to do, using a swab and putting your sample on the test strip, you get your result at home in 30 minutes. You can then register your result online.

Please can you continue to support us by wearing masks on arrival to the pre-school door (unless you have an exemption that means you cannot wear a mask for this short period). Our COVID-19 procedure can be found on our website [www.tywplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.tywplaygroup.co.uk)

### **Weather Safety**

What fabulous weather we have been having! Please can you help us by applying sun cream to your child before they arrive at pre-school and pack a sun hat, as well as a rain coat with their bag. We can re-apply sun cream for the all-day friends in the afternoon.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah O'Toole". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light grey rectangular background.

Sarah O'Toole, setting manager and SENDCo

On behalf of Tywardreath Pre-School Playgroup staff team