



Esklets Committee AGM
Tuesday 6th June @ 7pm
Fox & Hounds

Dear Esklets families

We hope you had a lovely time half term break. We are excited to see that our caterpillars have now made their cocoons...what will happen next? Over the next few weeks we will continue to explore the world of butterflies and other minibeasts, we will learn about the importance of looking after our teeth, we will play in water, make crafts for Fathers Day and Danby show, and find out about what happens in our world in the summer.

All families will receive a short end-of-year report from keyworkers on their child's progress during their time at Esklets during this school year.

Goodbyes

The last half term of the school year is always a busy one, with school visits for our children who will be starting Reception in September. We wish you and your families all the very best for the next, exciting stage of your learning journeys. In the last week of term we will have lots of fun activities and a teddy bears picnic to say goodbye to the children who are leaving.

September

For the families staying with us for the next school year, I will be asking you over the next couple of weeks about your childcare needs for September, so that we can start to plan sessions and staffing – have a think about what you will need. We would prefer people to do 'full' sessions if possible (ie mornings start 8.30-9, lunchtime pick-ups and drop-offs at 12 or 1, afternoon pick-ups from 3). Arriving or leaving midway through sessions does impact on what we can do with the children. Obviously occasionally this is necessary and fine, but as a rule of thumb we would ask that you choose full sessions, which still have flexibility.

Summer Holiday Club

You will all receive an email this week asking you to complete an online survey regarding school summer holiday opening. Please complete this as fully and as soon as possible, so that we get this put in place.

Safeguarding and security

We have been concerned recently about site security, particularly around arrival and drop off times, and have been looking at ways to make Esklets safer for the children whilst still maintaining our open and welcoming feel. The immediate change we have put into place is to add a locking bolt to the inside of the gate, which must only be unlocked by staff. The gate will be unlocked in the morning until around 9.15 and will then remain locked until children start going home at around 3.00. For children that arrive and leave in between these times, please ring the bell on the gate and a member of staff will come out to let you in. Could we also ask that (unless it's to introduce a new adult to us, or to show a visiting relative the nursery) only ONE adult comes in to drop off or collect a child. We are really busy this term and lots of adults makes it harder for us to see and reach all the children.

Additionally we are looking at adding a keyless entry system to the door, so that at times when the children are all inside the door is properly secured. We hope to have this in place by September at the latest. Until this is in place please help us to keep your children safe by ensuring they stay with you at collection time, remaining inside until their responsible adult goes outside with them.

Also on this note, please don't allow older children to play outside on our equipment when you pick younger siblings up from Esklets – they are not covered by our insurance should any accidents occur. Thank you.

Sunny weather

Esklets is a real suntrap, so we need to be aware of sun safety, even if it is not a particularly hot day. We have plenty of sunhats available at Esklets, so don't worry if you forget to bring one. Please apply suncream before you come – we will assume children have suncream on when they arrive and will not apply it as a matter of course in the mornings. If your child attends for full days we will apply suncream after lunch, unless you tell us that they are wearing a long lasting cream. We have children's suncream available, but do bring your own in if you prefer children to use a specific brand.

Tax-Free Childcare

Do you know about the Government's Tax-Free Childcare Scheme? It is a scheme to help families with childcare costs. Visit www.childcarechoices.co.uk to find out if you are eligible. For every £8 you pay towards your childcare costs, the government will top it up to £10. You can claim this from when your child is born up to when they are 11.

Jumble sale

Thank you so much to everyone who helped with our jumble sale. We had so many generous donations, lovely baking treats, and lots of help and support on the day. The jumble sale made £424; we then raised a further £75 by having the left-over clothing collected by Bags2School. I took a car full of leftovers to Stokesley car boot sale and made about another £40. By the time we paid for Village Hall hire and Car Boot entry that left us with an amazing profit of around £500. Well done everyone. Thank you to the committee for organising this super fundraiser.

Committee AGM

This Tuesday! Please attend!

Esklets is a charity run Preschool, which means we must have a parent run committee to oversee the business. We meet 3 or 4 times a year (usually in the pub!) to discuss the business, finances, and to make decisions on how the Preschool operates. The committee and staff work together to arrange fundraising activities and delegating other jobs such as maintenance. We would love more parents to get involved as we will be losing parents at the end of this school year. If you want to know more about becoming a committee member or are interested in joining us, please come along to the meeting. If you are unable to attend, but would like to join the committee, please speak to Vicky.

Website

Many thanks to Colin and Vicky for designing and setting up our fantastic new website. It looks amazing! Take a look at www.eskletspreschool.co.uk

DIARY DATES:

Tuesday 6th June

Committee AGM.

Friday 21st July

Last day of Summer term

Tuesday 5th September

First day of Autumn term

Thank you for your continued support.