

Hillside Pre-School & Early Learning Group



Spring/Summer Term Dates 2023

Date	Event	Extra Information
Wednesday 4th January	Pre-School Returns	
13th - 17th February	Half Term	
Monday 20th February	Inset day	Return to Pre-school Tuesday 21st Feb
Thursday 30th March	Last day of term before Easter Break	
Monday 17th April	Pre-School returns after Easter Break	
Monday 1st May	Pre-School Closed	Bank Holiday
Monday 8th May	Pre- School Closed	Coronation of King Charles III
May 29th - June 2nd	Half Term	
Monday 5th June	Pre-school closed - inset day	Return to Pre-School on Tuesday 6th June
Wednesday 19th July	Last day of term (before summer break)	First School finish on Friday 21st July



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Monday 9th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to everyone !

Bad weather:

Staff will endeavour to get into pre-school so that parents can be advised if we are to close in the event of snow. As soon as we have information regarding closure it will be put on our Facebook page and our website.

Please remember if Hillside School is closed then the pre-school is also closed. In the event of bad weather please do not risk life and limb to get here!

Please label your child's belongings especially coats, hats, scarves and gloves!

Focus areas:

Our focus this half term will be Winter, Chinese New Year (Year of the Rabbit) and other countries and cultures. If you have knowledge of another culture that you would like to share with the children please let us know.

We will also continue to talk to children about their emotions so they can begin to manage their feelings and be sensitive to the feelings of others.

Depending on the weather conditions the frog spawn may also arrive.

Important information

Lunch boxes:

Please do not put chocolate or sweets in your child's lunch box, and please do not put in any peanut based products such as Nutella or nut cereal bars. We have some leaflets which give tips and ideas for healthy lunches that we are sending out in your child's book bag.

Can we also remind you to cut up grapes and small tomatoes longways to prevent any risk of choking.

Illness:

Due to increase in Strep A and Covid-19 cases, we want to remind parents to please keep children at home if they have any symptoms or are generally unwell. If a child needs Calpol to reduce a temperature then they should not be at pre-school, as they usually go downhill as the day progresses.

The school grounds:

We are aware that the car park wooden fence needs repair and we have contacted the First school about this. In the meantime, please do not allow your child to walk or sit on the fence.

We have been made aware by the school that a number of parents are using the staff car park to drop off and collect their child. Please park on the roadside or the parents' car park and walk your child in to pre-school. Also, when leaving pre-school, please use the pathways rather than walking through the staff car park. We understand that this was necessary during Social Distancing however there has been a near miss incident so we want to keep everyone safe.



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Attendance:

If your child is unwell, please contact us by telephone or email on the first morning of their illness. Regular attendance is a requirement of the Early Years funding, we would be grateful if children can arrive promptly at 9am, in order to start their learning with the register and weather board activities.

We understand that some parents have to drop off their older children at other local schools.

Dorset Family Information Service:

The local Dorset Council children's centres run courses for parents and carers, including Parenting skills and strategies, a Baby group and also a five week programme concerning the effect that Lockdown had on babies. Please find attached with this email, the timetable and information leaflets; we will also be uploading the documents to our Facebook page.

For further information, please use the following link to their webpage [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/family-information-service](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/family-information-service), alternatively, you can call 01202 228833 or email eastandchesilchildrenscentres@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.

You can also follow the Family Information Service on Facebook for all future updates by clicking on the following link -

<https://www.facebook.com/dorsetfis>

Kind regards,

Elaine Ford
Pre-School Manager

