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Chirpy Chicks Newsletter April 2017

Every child can learn, just not on the same day or in the same way (George Evans)

April Theme

As we approach the end of this term we've been talking about Easter, preparations for the Easter break and spending time with our families. There'll be the opportunity some Easter art and craft activities, Easter rhymes and for the children to tell us about their plans for the holidays. As the days are getting longer and the weather better we will be incorporating keeping safe when we are out and about.

Following on from the March theme of Growing Things we're going into the creepy crawly world of **Mini-beasts**. We will be looking at different types of mini-beasts, where they live, their homes/shelters and what they eat.

Learning outcomes

Some of the learning outcomes we will be looking at are highlighted below in the 6 areas of learning we follow on our preschool curriculum.

- Physical – participate in large physical play activities
- Early Maths – beginning to solve problems
- The Arts – experiments with a wide range of materials
- World Around Us – showing care for living things and the environment
- Language – can express own thoughts/feelings/ideas
- Personal, social & emotional – can play purposefully

A full breakdown of our monthly and weekly plans is available on the notice board in the hall.

AWARE Mood Matters Course April 24th

We're running our first course for parents in the village hall on April 24th at 7-9 pm. This course is open to all not just Chirpy Chicks parents so do please spread the word. Looking after mental health for parents to be, new mums, and new dads, is so important and AWARE will be giving some advice on this free course. Places are limited so email to book on info@chirpychicksplaygroup.com, message us on Facebook, or phone or text to 07577855185.

Parent/Carer Questionnaires

Let us know how we're doing and if you can help us with some future ideas we have to improve the setting. Return your completed questionnaire to the dropbox in the foyer, or by post with the stamp addressed envelope included. Many thanks for taking the time to complete them.

Staff training

Boardmaker - the staff and director Nick attended training in use of Boardmaker software in Grey Abbey P.S. This enables us to create our own visuals to help with learning, routines and displays in the setting. It was facilitated by Education Authority –Early Years Inclusion Service who we link in

with for training and support. We were pleased have P1 teacher Mrs Adair join us and who will also be able to use Boardmaker, and many thanks to Mr Derrick for hosting the training.

First Aid training – Jayne and Lyndene completed a refresher paediatric training course and Donna completed the full paediatric course.

Rhymes and Songs for this month

Peter Rabbit's got a fly upon his nose
There's a worm at the bottom of the garden
Incy wincy spider
Little Miss Muffet
Hot cross buns
Bunnies are brown
Easter bunnies

Pre-school places for September 2017

Letters advising parents of their child's pre-school place for Sept 2017 will be sent out at the end of April. We look forward to welcoming more friends to come and play at Chirpy Chicks!

Dates for your diary

Friday 7 th April	Finish for Easter Holidays
Monday 24 th April	Playgroup re-opens, AWARE Mood Matters Course 7-9pm
Monday 1 st May	May Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 2 nd May	Closure for Staff training
Monday 29 th May	Bank Holiday

Thank you for your ongoing support – The Chirpy Chicks Team