



# Stanmore Baptist Preschool

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 2  
July 2021

### Ark Farm Visit

On a wet, chilly Monday morning in the middle of June a trailer arrived in the Preschool car park with some interesting noises coming from inside.

All was soon revealed as a selection of animals from Ark Farm were quickly led into their new surroundings for the morning. Very soon a group of little faces were pressed up against the Foyer window very excited about what they could see. Once in the car park and by the pen, the children listened very carefully to the instructions on how to stroke the animals and to be quiet around them so they didn't frighten the animals. They were told the names of the animals, there was Declan the donkey and Hat and Scarf the goats.



Declan the donkey and friends



The children saw that animals have fur and birds have feathers, some children knew that hens provide us with eggs but it was too cold on Monday and the hens didn't lay any for us. We felt the soft coats of the different animals and also the harder horns on the goats. We talked about how the ducks feet help them to swim. We were proud of the children as they all behaved extremely well and from some of the comments on Tapestry we know they enjoyed the experience.

*Auntie Alison*

### Coffee mornings and the treasure trolley return!

**Wednesdays 9:30 - 10:15.**

It's been wonderful to be able to get together again over the last few weeks and put some names to faces and have a natter and a drink. Please do pop in to say hello and stay for as little or a long as you can.

For those of you who don't know 'The Treasure Trolley' it's for new or good condition items that we no longer need, but we think might be of use to another family. Items can just be taken or a small donation made



and all proceeds go to preschool and help fund extra items for the children to enjoy. It ranges from books, both children's and adults, to children's shoes and clothes and toys. Do stop in to have a look even if you can't stay for a drink, you'd be most welcome. There is also opportunity to speak to a member of the preschool team too. The fire escape door to the left of the main building is opened up for us to use. Look forward to seeing you there.

*Siân and Laura*

## Cariad Baby Bank Harrow

This is a new initiative supporting families in need in Harrow and surrounding areas with baby essentials and pre-loved items for children aged 0-5 years. It was started by a mum at Alison's church.

If you have baby items that you no longer need perhaps consider donating them to this wonderful cause.

Working in partnership with King's Church Harrow, the scheme has already provided packs of items for nine families with pre-school children in need.

Please speak to Alison to arrange when people can bring their donations.

You can help by donating:



### NEW/USED

- Baby and children's clothing (0-5 years)
- Moses baskets without the mattress as we buy these new
- Sheets for Moses basket, crib, cot, or cot bed
- Towels
- Baby baths
- Nappies (size 0 – 6) including opened packs
- Maternity and Breast pads including opened packs
- Bibs and muslins that are unstained
- Slings / baby carriers
- Good quality shoes (suitable for up to age 5)

### NEW

- Baby changing items: eg. Nappies, baby wipes, nappy cream, nappy sacks
- Baby bath toiletries: eg. baby wash, baby lotion, baby shampoo, sponges
- Mattresses for Moses baskets
- Baby changing mats
- Sanitary pads

- Weaning equipment – eg. spoons, bowls, small containers, beakers
- Baby food (with a good date)
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste for toddlers
- Toiletries for mums – eg. deodorant, shower gel, toothbrushes, shampoo



### WE CANNOT ACCEPT

- Anything broken, damaged or with parts missing
- Clothing or other fabric items that are stained or torn
- Used mattresses
- Cot bumpers, sleep positioners, baby hammocks, pods or nests
- Bottled toiletries that have been opened
- Electrical items

● For further info please look at the website or on the facebook or twitter page <https://www.cariadbabybank.org>



## Woodland Adventure

As parent representative I was lucky to be invited to assist on the Kangaroos' Forest School outing. It was a warm day and nice to be in the shade of the woods.

Some of the children were very excited and already trying to explore the woods before the leaders Jan and Debbie welcomed us in. They taught us a useful 'woodland rules rhyme'; "No picky, no licky and be careful with the sticky!" Then we followed them along the path, stopping along the way to make a friendship bracelet, before we entered the wonderful forest school.



There was a big canopy tent with tree stumps in a circle to sit on and an area with a fire for the adults to make a warm drink (which was really lovely for us to be looked after too).

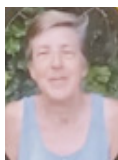
The children enjoyed lots of forest activities like creating a spark with flint and steel, hide-and-seek with camouflage material, mud cooking and making a woodland 'passport'. One very exciting part of the morning was when the children were asked to help make a magic 'laughing' potion. The ingredients were added by the children (and adults) and a foamy green liquid bubbled up causing shrieks of excitement and laughter.


Before we went home, we thanked Jan and Debbie for the adventure as we had all had a wonderful time singing and exploring, creating and experimenting with them!

**Laura Parent Rep**







**Hi, I'm Auntie Sue.** I can't remember exactly how long I've been working at preschool, probably because I started by working part time providing 1:1 support for a specific child and then came back soon after that. It's about 9 or 10 years. 

I was brought up in Stanmore and even went to Stanburn school - a long time ago! My brother and sister actually attended Stanmore Baptist playgroup but sadly I did not get that opportunity. My daughter also came to the playgroup and we belong to the church so I have had links with Preschool for a long time. In my spare time I like to cook, garden, sew and knit. During lockdown I have been enjoying making my own bread and getting to use my sewing machine again. I also love swimming but have not been able to do that lately, so instead I've tried to walk as much as possible. We have 3 guinea pigs at home. They are supposed to be my daughter's but you wouldn't think that if you saw who does most of the looking after! She'd love a dog too but I've not given in to that. Here's a picture of them.



Peanut, Squeak and Cookie

## Make your own play dough



**Into a saucepan put:**

- 2 cups Cold Water
- Food Colouring

**Stir in:**

- 2 cups Plain Flour
- 4 teaspoons Cream of Tartar
- 1 cup Salt
- 2 tablespoons Cooking Oil

**Mix and stir**, whilst cooking over a medium heat, until desired consistency is obtained. Leave to cool. Store in sealed container in the fridge.

**Play time!**



You can find more dough ideas at [www.theimaginationtree.com](http://www.theimaginationtree.com) including no cooking dough recipes.

## Before the lights go out...

Ever wondered how the Preschool is spotlessly clean each morning? It would be easy to assume that this was the work of fairies casting a tidy-up spell. But that is just a story for the children - it is of course the dedication of the Preschool Auntes. Their behind the scenes effort has ensured that the building has been safe for the children to enter each day during the pandemic. From cleaning paint pots to toys, wiping and mopping surfaces and floors, we are grateful the Auntes' cleaning routine has allowed Preschool to remain open. Surely that is far more spectacular than the possibility that tiny winged fairies are at work each night!



If you have any ideas for the next edition or anything you'd like to contribute for the content we'd love to hear from you!

