



Spring 2/2022

Trinket Box Newsletter

Dates for the Diary

- Tuesday 15th March—
Little Urchins
Photographer to visit
- Last day of term—
Friday 1st April
- First day back—Tuesday
19th April
- 19th April—Incredible
Eggs
arrive



Better Health—Start for Life Campaign



We wanted to draw your attention to a new NHS website entitled Better Health Start for Life.

The link is: <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life>

This site offers a range of support to parents around pregnancy, breastfeeding, weaning and vaccinations right through to toddler support. It may be of use to you or friends you know expecting their first child.

Also if you participate with their weaning survey, you can be entered into a draw to win an Ipad Mini.

School and September Places

Primary School Offer Day is Tuesday 19th April. If your child is off to school in September you will receive notification of the offer of a school place on that day. The council will assume that you will accept the place so if you are not, please ensure you make contact with the Pupil Admissions team. Please let us know if your child is not planning to attend Greenways Primary as we will shortly start to plan for transition and be in touch with the feeder schools.



If your child is returning to Trinket Box for another year, please let us know the sessions that will be required if not already done so. We do give priority to existing families before our new intake so please ensure your requests reach me by Friday 1st April to avoid disappointment.

After that I will be working on the waiting list for September places for our new intake.

Fundraising Update

Bag2school raised £80. We will be repeating this fundraiser after the June half term so please save your items!

AmazonSmile raised £27.81 between 1st October-31st December 2021 so please change to Amazon Smile and nominate us if you use Amazon regularly.

Easyfundraising raised £17.21 from November 2020-21

Trinket Box Lottery is going well. So Far 26 tickets have been sold so cash prizes are going up!

PLEASE check out the last page of this newsletter for reminders on how to join in with the above fundraising methods

EGG-citing News!

We are not afraid to revisit things that have been popular in the past and we gauge the enjoyment or 'awe and wonder' factor in every activity we provide for the children. One of our most popular visitors to the setting is 'Incredible Eggs'.

In 2020 we hatched our own ducklings who went to live at Hadleigh Rare Breeds Centre and previously we hatched our own chicks. These were actually adopted by parents.

As Easter is approaching and children see so many chick related items commercially, we thought we would show them the real thing.

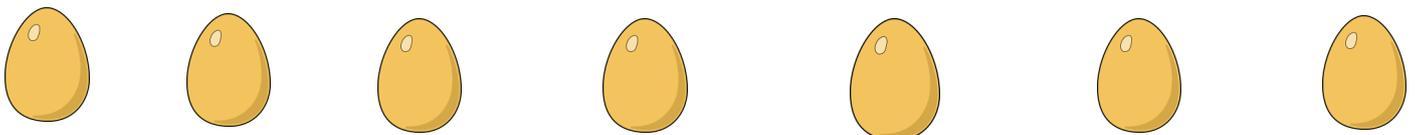
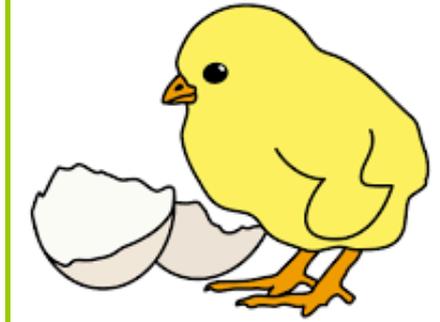
Firstly this is an educational experience and we have looked into whether the company is ethical. Here is a link to explain how the birds are raised and confirms that the farms involved have signed a pledge to ensure the birds have a good quality life:

<https://www.incredibleeggs.co.uk/about-us/>

The eggs arrive in their very own incubator and stay with us for approximately 10 days. During that time the children can watch close up. The egg starts to crack as the chick is busy inside working it's way chipping away at the shell with it's egg tooth. The chick emerges wet and exhausted but within minutes their feathers are drying out in the warmth of the incubator. Once the chicks are sturdy enough they can be moved to a feeding cage where they start to feed for themselves. They begin to stretch their tiny wings and show us just how quick they can move! After a few days they are able to be handled, highly supervised of course! Previously we've managed to video some of the hatching which is great to replay.

Obviously some eggs don't hatch so children learn why that might be. We look at the difference in the sizes as the eggs normally hatch over a couple of days.

The eggs are due to arrive on Tuesday 19th April and we will be giving you regular updates on their progress. If anyone feels they may like to rehome any of our chickens please email Annabel nearer the time for more information.



A **child's play** is not simply a reproduction of what he has experienced, but a **creative reworking** of the impressions he has acquired.

~Vygotsky

QUOTE CORNER— Child's Play

Child theorist Lev Vygotsky's quote sums up how important play is. Children are very impressionable and they make sense of the world through their experiences.

Play is an important part of that, hence early education is learning through play. It is also essential to have suitable role models and a stimulating, language rich environment.

Interaction, Play and Learning- Let's Get the Balance Right!

Revision of the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) curriculum in Sept 2021, brought a welcome change to our way of working within the pre-school environment. The focus was to change from more formal tracking and assessment of children to reduced paperwork and for staff quite rightly so to spend more time with the children! I'm sure you will agree, more so with the effects of the pandemic, children NEED interaction to be able to further their learning and catch up on the missed social opportunities during lockdown.



As you know we use Tapestry that you can also add to. To make it fair we have 'focus children' each week to observe and all children are rotated over a 6 week period to enable their online journals to be updated. Our priority is to be with the children for face to face interaction. Once your child leaves us you are able to download a copy of their Tapestry file to retain so it makes a lovely keepsake.

At Trinket Box we have a language rich environment and we LOVE having a chat! Children being at ease with adults, their peers and their surroundings is the start to fostering good relationships, confidence and self esteem for later life.

You leave your child at the door, so what happens next.....

Children are encouraged to place lunch box and drink in the appropriate place. Afterwards they go to try and recognise their name on their coat peg and are encouraged by their key person to take off their own coat and hang it up. Once this is done they start their pre-school session by washing their hands (this is now second nature to them!). Afterwards it's time to explore their surroundings, seek out familiar faces and crack on with playing and learning!

We have many resources on offer, today's role play is 'people who help us' so children are dressed as firefighters, police, doctors etc. There is a fascination with handcuffs as they try to secure a staff member 'in jail' as they say. One child has a stethoscope as they correctly place it on another one's chest.....after careful listening, thankfully they are deemed to be well. Lots of lovely conversation has taken place. This area is outside my office and I can hear snippets that sometimes cause a chuckle.

We have an open door policy so children know that if the office door is open, they can come to have a chat. Only last week Batman appeared hands on hips in a superhero stance. He was accompanied by Rapunzel who was twirling in her dress and saying Batman is a goodie, he's my friend! Iron man and Hulk hovered in the background as they listened to the conversation too.

The children can access the garden during the course of the session. They move with confidence both inside and out. We have access to a small playground so the children are taken outside to let off some steam. When they come in they can have snack. We are back to a 'rolling snack system' that enables children to choose when they have a snack within a certain time frame. Supervised they select their own bowl, use the spoons to dish their chosen snack into their bowls. They select their own drink, pour water themselves or milk and sit down with their friends. Afterwards they are able to wash up their own bowl which is a favourite chore. So already they are learning skills for later life and every stage of the snack process enables them to use their physical, communication and critical thinking skills.

After snack we have a small group focus around speech/school readiness so some children each day participate. Today's activity is 'Describe It and Find It' as the children look at a range of objects, trying to identify an object by its description, initial letter sound and finally name. Another group are in the garden scooting, climbing and using the mud kitchen and other resources. Next it's more free flow play. The children request singing and accompany Elsa on the interactive screen singing 'Let It Go!' A quick burst before it's time to tidy away the toys and yes the children DO tidy away! They learn to sort the toys and put them in the appropriate place. The group separates as some children prepare to go home and others are immersed in a lunchtime activity involving number recognition. That's another pre-school session ended filled with a multitude of learning experiences!





Committee Focus— Fundraising RECAP



Dear Parents and Carers,

Here's a little recap of some of the schemes that we have running that help us to raise money for the pre-school.

EASYFUNDRAISING

Trinket Box Pre-School are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 6,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them - at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/trinketbox/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=gs-e1

AMAZON SMILE

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support us. It's exactly the same as Amazon with the same low prices. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.co.uk or you can activate the shopping app. Alternatively you can activate it in the Amazon shopping app, simply tap on "AmazonSmile" within the Programmes and Features menu or Settings and follow the on-screen instructions.

TRINKET BOX LOTTERY

Please email Andrew (Treasurer): lottery@thetrinket.org.uk with your name and how many numbers/entries you would like. The cost is £4 per draw so as we have 3 draws left this term, the cost will be £12. Draw money is 35% of the total entries for 1st Prize and 15% for 2nd Prize.

Please email fundraising@thetrinket.org.uk if you have any ideas and suggestions regarding fundraising.

Many thanks,

The Trinket Box Committee

STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH

If you feel that a member of staff has gone over and above the norm, please nominate them for 'Staff Member of the Month'.

The Committee takes into consideration all the nominations and then awards staff members with the title. Staff at Trinket Box take pride in their work and endeavour to work with you for the benefit of your child. They do have a job role but we feel that often they go over and above that.

Your input DOES count. ALL nominations are read and shared. Nominations can be made using the nomination slips in the foyer, or by email to annabel@thetrinket.org.uk or natalie@thetrinket.org.uk

Thank you

