



Summer 1/2024

Trinket Box Newsletter

Dates for the Diary

- Monday 29th April—
Veolia Visit (recycling focus)
- Wednesday 22nd May—
Online Event run by
Essex Police 7.30-
9.00pm—Cyber Safety,
Apps and Social Media
(email to follow)
- Monday 27th May-31st
May—Half term
- Tuesday 4th June—
Graduation and
Portrait Photos (email
to follow)
- Friday 7th June
(approx.) Insect Lore—
Caterpillar to Butterfly
project.
- Tuesday 18th June
6.30pm-8.30pm—
Parents Evening and
Trinket Box AGM (email
to follow)
- Thursday 4th July—
Trinket Box Sports Day
(email to follow)
- Friday 12th July—
School Leavers Prom
(email to follow)
- Friday 12th July—last
funded day
- Friday 19th July—last
day of term.
- More dates to follow!



OUR FANTASTIC FIVE!

Our children had an 'awe and wonder' close up to nature experience in March with the help of Incredible Eggs. This got a 5/5 from the children!

We received our five eggs to incubate and we were extremely lucky to have five ducklings hatch.

This was such a lovely experience as the children rushed in daily to see if there was any movement and some were actually transfixed. Children drew them 'welcome' pictures and looked forward to seeing how much they had grown over the 7-9 day period.

We named the ducklings as you know. The first out the egg being BOLT (after Usain). He/she was super fast and as soon as the cage was opened Bolt was at the entrance peering out! Next out was DANDELION, an all yellow duckling. Third, we had BUMBLE, named by the children as he/she had black and yellow feathers and striped feet. Lastly we had two hatch that were really similar and so ANT and DEC were named!

The children were able to handle them, watch them feed, drink and preen. They also saw them swim and have a great bath time, splashing everyone!

This life-cycle experience was a valuable one. Our ducks can now be seen at Hadleigh Rare Breeds Centre so why not carry on and follow their journey (<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/hadleighfarm/rare-breeds-centre>). We had one Indian Runner (Bolt), two Pekins (Dandelion and Bumble) and two Khaki Campbells (Ant and Dec)



Forest School Reminder

Roll up, roll up for your child's extra Forest School sessions!

Here are the fees if you are interested:

Six sessions within normal attendance £36

Six sessions on a non attendance day £108

Natalie is also offering FS taster sessions to the younger children over the age of 3 years at the following rates so get in quick if it appeals :

One session £7

Two sessions £12



Making bird feeders



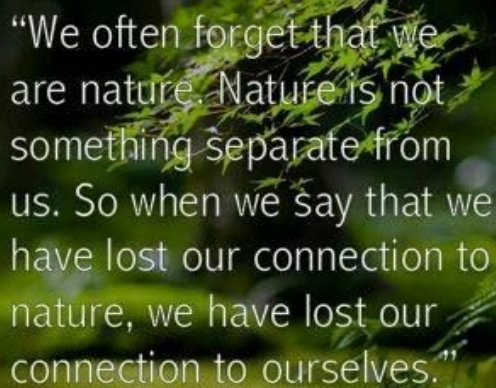
Flora, our Forest School Friend

Can You Help Us?

As usual we are on the look out for some items to use here. Can you help with any of the following:

- Yoghurt pots
- Guttering
- Decking boards and small pieces of wood
- Kitchen rolls, egg boxes
- Embroidery thread, wool, ribbon

QUOTE CORNER— In Touch With Nature.



“We often forget that we are nature. Nature is not something separate from us. So when we say that we have lost our connection to nature, we have lost our connection to ourselves.”

— Andy Goldsworthy

British artist and naturalist Andy Goldsworthy states that he tries to understand nature by participating in it.

He specialises in transient art and this is something that we do with the children. Using materials/items to form a picture and being able to restructure it to form another and so on. Options are endless!

A great beach activity on a large scale too.

Breakfast and After School Club

As you know we have recently launched a breakfast and after school club to lend a helping hand to parents. We are also offering an 'early start' of 8.30am to help fall in line with school drop off. Whilst initial interest was good, take up has been slow.

However, we don't give up easily and some families have said it has been a huge bonus as timing was just right for them.

So what do we offer.....

- A nutritious breakfast with a choice of cereal, toast, yogurt and a selection of fruit with milk or water.
- Activities such as yoga, building a story, reading books, scissor control, pencil control, fine manipulative activities like threading/ sewing, playing games, stretching and exercise, nature walk in the school grounds and learning about different subjects like recycling, light and reflection amongst others!



There have been some lovely conversations over breakfast, some amusing ones. Here's one from last week.....

Child: I'm drawing my family. My dog is a sort of yellow colour

Adult: I have two dogs, they love to have a treat like a Bonio and they really love carrots which is a healthier snack for them

Child: My dog loves carrots too and we love her to eat lots and lots of carrots!

Adult: Oh why is that?

Child: Carrots make you see in the dark and if she doesn't have carrots, she might not be able to see and then what would happen.....she'd keep bumping into everything!

These little conversations are just great, very rewarding.



Off to Big School—Transition

Most of our school leavers will go to Greenways Primary, thirty eight to be precise. This year there will be approximately nine or ten children in each of the four classes. We advise the school regarding friendships, development, strengths and insecurities to enable them to have a picture of your child before they meet them. We are working with the school regarding transition and will be visited by some teachers from Greenways Primary in May. We hope to arrange some visits to the school and we will update you on this when we know more.



For those children who are off to other schools, the same exchanges are made. We contact the respective school and make a point of discussing your child. They are then aware of how they might be in school. Some schools allow the teacher to visit us and we are happy for this to happen.

This year we are feeding the following schools: St. Georges, Sacred Heart, Bournes Green and Earls Hall.

If you have any concerns regarding transition please let us know.

Recycling Reminder

BAG2SCHOOL COLLECTION-Friday 3rd MAY

We receive money for every kilo of unwanted items donated which will help buy some new resources for the children.



These are the items that can be donated if they are in good condition: men's, ladies and children's clothing, paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around), handbags, hats, bags, scarves and ties, jewellery, lingerie, socks, belts, soft toys, household linen, household curtains, household towels, household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Please place your items in a bag (clear, black, carrier or shopping) and drop your items to us week commencing 29th April.

Mouth-watering Mothers Day Cupcakes



THANK YOU so much to Sarah @ Squidger & Watson (<https://swcakes.co.uk/>) for suggesting this fundraiser and subsidising the cost.

This event raised a whopping £260!



COMMITTEE FOCUS.....WE NEED YOU

We are preparing to hold our AGM on Tuesday 18th June, which will also be our parents evening (more details to follow).

The purpose of the AGM is to report to the members of the pre-school (you) and elect the committee members who will manage the pre school for the forthcoming year. Being part of the committee can be a rewarding and insightful experience and can be an opportunity to meet new people. We meet bi-monthly either via Zoom or face to face to discuss a variety of issues such as staffing, resources and fundraising. We're a friendly bunch and always on the look out for new recruits, especially parents whose children are still attending TB in September! Help us to help your child by providing a resourceful and stimulating environment.

Some of our existing members no longer have children that attend Trinket Box and will therefore naturally be looking to leave very soon. It's a necessity that we find new members to keep the pre school going! **NO COMMITTEE = NO TRINKET BOX!**

INTERESTED? Please do not hesitate to contact Annabel or Natalie if you require any more information.

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 by email to annabel@thetrinket.org.uk or natalie@thetrinket.org.uk Thank You

