



Dear Parents and Carers,

8th October 2018

What a super start your children have had at Alphington Pre-school and Nursery. We are so pleased with how the children are getting on and how well they are progressing. We continue to learn as much as we can about their likes and dislikes, so please do come and let your child's key worker know what they have been up to, so we can focus on this during their session in class.

### **Tapestry.**

Tapestry is going really well at Alphington Pre-school and we have already made many observations and assessments on your child since starting. Therefore, this week we hope to get you up and running with it too!

An email should be sent to you this week which will ask you to create an account with Tapestry so that you can access your child's information. If you feel you would like some assistance with this, please let a member of the staff know and we will help you as much as we can.

I have set up an Online Pre-school Facebook page where you can ask any questions and we will upload photos of special days or let you know key moments that are happening at school. Please request to join if you would like to. Here is link to the Facebook page name: Alphington Pre-school Online Notice Board.

### **Key Workers:**

We assign your child a key worker in pre-school and nursery so that they are able to make a special relationship with one particular adult and you as parents/carers know that this is the adult that will know your child best. Your child's key worker's job is to ensure that your child settles well when arriving at school and also to learn about your child's stage of development and focus on their next steps. Over the course of the year, there will be opportunities for you to come in and discuss with us your child's progress and development, however we have an 'open-door' policy at Alphington so we are very happy to make an appointment if you feel it necessary.

**Book Time:** As some of you are already aware, the children have bookbags and bring these to school. During the week, your child's key worker will spend time with your child, choosing a book, sharing it with your child and reading it to them. We will make a note of any comments or observations that your child has made on the book changing sheet inside the bookbag. This is also a place for you to write any comments you observe when reading with your child at home. The children are always so proud if they have read their 'school book' at home. We very much encourage this as it sets up the early reading skills they will need to be ready for BIG school!

**Parents Working Garden Group:** Thank you to all the parents who have very kindly offered to help Tanya and I out with the gardening working group. We really appreciate it. I have taken your names and will endeavour to contact you about a possible Saturday morning where we come into school for a couple of hours and do some gardening/weeding/cutting back/clearing around the school.

**Head lice and Chicken Pox:** Just to let you know, there has been a case of head lice in Preschool last week and so can you be extra vigilant checking your child's hair for those creepy crawly little bugs!

There has also been a case of chicken pox in Foundation class in the school, so if any parents are concerned regarding this information, please come and discuss it with us.

