

Marhamchurch Pre School, Helerbridge Road, Marhanmchurch, Bude, EX23 OHY

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Wednesday 26th April 2023

It was a very slow start in September with numbers lower than usual. This was a little challenging with finances and all staff helped by reducing their hours.

Staff have been busy throughout the year completing relevant training, including Behaviour management, prevent and child protection.

In September we were extremely proud to achieve an outstanding grade from Ofsted. We had been waiting for this inspection since before the first lockdown and the whole team have worked extremely hard to achieve this amazing grade. The Pre School has been in the village for over 30 years and this is the very first time that it has ever achieved Outstanding.

Our children have continued to thrive and have exceeded extremely well in their development. They all love coming in and have fantastic relationships with all the staff, this enables the children to feel safe within the environment and progress well. We have introduced weekly science experiments, scribble while you wiggle and disco dough alongside other weekly activities such as PE, Yoga, read, write, InC and fun with maths.

We returned to Forest School in September and have a new bell tent in the area that enables us to have some shelter when it's cold and wet. We have also been able to purchase a stove which we hope to start using after the Easter break. This has been achieved by the small amount we charge parents for attending the forest school sessions.

We have a fantastic fundraising committee who have come together and raised a good amount of money for the Pre School, this has included a very successful quiz night and several cake sales after school.

The chair has also been working extremely hard applying for several grants to help purchase new resources and equipment for the Pre School. We have yet to spend any of this money but hope to purchase some new gardening equipment to grow vegetables and cook with the children.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped raise the much needed funds for the Pre School this academic year. It has been a tough year with the rising costs of minimum wage and the cost of living. I am hopeful that we can continue to keep the Pre School running and be in a better financial position in the next tax year. September 2023 looks particularly healthy for numbers and we have several new families that have already enrolled with us.

Nicky Rogers

Marhamchurch Pre School manager