

Welcome to our spring newsletter – it has been a little while since we last saw a lot of you, but we thought we would share what some of our staff and children have been up to before we go back to school!

First, we'd like to thank you all for your support during these strange and difficult times. We really do appreciate it, your email's telling us how much your children are looking forward to being back at club make it all worthwhile!

## **Changing Faces**

We are sad to say our lovely supervisor Chloe left us at February half term for new pursuits. She has been with KLU for the last 8 years, starting as a volunteer during her time at college, working very hard to gain her childcare qualifications, taking over as supervisor at Holbrook before taking on the challenge of opening a new club at Southgate, where she built a very happy and warm environment for the children. More recently, she has been working as co-supervisor with Zoë. We will miss her very much but look forward to hearing about how she is getting on.

#### **Key Worker Children**



Whilst we ultimately had to close our Southwater club for key worker children, they had a lot of fun whilst it was still up and running. The children created a gallery wall, showing off their colouring skills for the rest of the school to see, as

well as creating a display board all about their families and how they come in all shapes and sizes.

We also had fun playing with our own individual balls of salt dough, creating our own handprint

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memories to take home. We did lots of craft activities and enjoyed going outside when the weather was nice enough to let us! The children enjoyed the opportunity to play in smaller groups, making new friends and playing with toys they might not normally choose to play with.

The junior children enjoyed being able to play board games together and held tournaments on the Wii and PlayStation with the staff (turns out Alice and Chloe are very good at MarioKart!).

### **Staff Activities**

During this lockdown to keep themselves from missing club too much, our staff have been keeping themselves very busy.

Jenny and Alice have been brushing up on their monopoly skills, baking lots of goodies, going for walks around the village and sorting through old family photos.

Zoë has had a busy time helping her mother settle into her new home, helping her son with his online learning and going out for lots of walks.

Andora has also been helping her son with his online learning, going into the Junior Academy when needed and running over 200km this month for charity! What an achievement!

Sharon has been overseeing the completion of her new extension and is thoroughly enjoying having a lovely new family room to relax in. She has been exploring the local area whilst on dog walks with her husband.

Janis has been busy volunteering at the Covid Vaccination Hub – even in the pouring rain



– and, with her family, has been taking part in a weekly online quiz – something they have been doing since the very first lockdown!

#### **Kids Like Us on Facebook**

Don't forget to 'like' us on Facebook. It is a great way to get reminders about upcoming events, upto-date information about the club, plus see what the children have been getting up to with some lovely photos. Please leave us a review as well, it would be very helpful! Keep your eye out for our Easter competition and the chance to win some prizes – there will be a post going up about it in the next few weeks!

#### Website

We have been working to update our website to make it more user friendly. There you can find booking forms, registration documents, important policies, FAQs and much more.

# Returning to school and club



We are thrilled that we will be able to see you all again when schools re-open fully on the 8<sup>th</sup> March! There are just a few things we would like to remind you about before we return.

When we return to club, we want to

remind you all to keep your distance from one another, arrive before 8.10am for breakfast, and not to collect your child before 4pm in the afternoon. Also please remember to let us know via text or email if your child will not be attending a session.

We also ask that you let us know if anyone in your family is awaiting test results and of any positive Covid Test results within your family as this may have an impact on the other children and staff.

Children will be remaining in their year group bubbles as they will be in school. With Chloe leaving us, there will be a move around of the staff members. Jenny and Zoë will be supervising the sessions and greeting parents on the door, Alice will be moving to Reception, Andora and

Janis will be with Year One, whilst Sharon will remain with the Juniors. We are lucky to have a fantastic new staff member joining us in a couple of weeks called Lily. She will be with the Year Two bubble. In the meantime, we



have a lovely volunteer called Chloe joining us. If you have any questions, please let us know.

## **September Starters & Sessions**

Our books are now open for September bookings. If you have friends or family whose children will be starting at the Southwater Academies in September, please recommend Kids Like Us to them. We have more spaces than usual this year due to the pandemic, so we hope to be able to help most people.

If you have children who will be starting Reception in September, please get in touch with the office about their place with us. Should you also need to change the sessions your child attends, please email the office with your request and we



will do our best to accommodate the changes. It is important you do this as soon as you can, places on different days is entirely dependent on numbers in bubbles on those days so please be patient as we work through your requests.

We look forward to seeing you all again soon, The Southwater Kids Like Us Team