



Layer Preschool

Registered Charity No. 1055207



Committee End of Year Report July 2020

2020, the year that could have been but none of us could have expected what it would turn out to be. Whilst it has been disappointing in many ways, we are very grateful that all our staff, committee, children and their families have remained safe and well. We thank you for your support over the year.

The team used their time in lockdown well and completed lots of training courses for continued professional development. Forest School training for Stef had to be postponed to later in the year. They also encouraged use of the Tapestry system as a communication platform and continuation of the children's learning journal during lockdown. We hope the ideas sent by team for home learning activities were beneficial to you all.

There were many things we were unable to complete or hold this year due to COVID-19 shutdown but here are some highlights of the year.



Staff and Committee

We started in September welcoming to the team Karena Dunn as our Office Manager, Karena is the secretary of our committee so has been involved with preschool for a number of years. We also welcomed Jo Gipson as a level 3 qualified preschool assistant. Anne-Marie McKenna, who has been working with us whilst completing her level 2 childcare qualification, joined us for two days a week and is now studying for her level 3.

We welcomed new members Georgina and Tara to our committee. The preschool is a committee led preschool registered with the Charity Commission. The committee are all volunteers who assist Paula and the team in their spare time. We hope to meet lots of you next term and welcome more parents to our committee. If you would like to find out how to get involved please don't hesitate to contact us.

Golden Anniversary!



We celebrated 50 years of Layer Preschool by having a party in September. It was a fantastic event attended by so many people, staff, parents and children of preschool past and present. We

enjoyed lots of games and a raffle, delicious cream teas and cakes, face painting, glitter tattoos, dancing and a wonderful magic show.



We raised a staggering amount of money too, just over £1000. Thank you to everyone who supported our event.





Fun Learning!



In October, we ran a theme of People Who Help Us and learnt about dentists and nurses thanks to some of our wonderful parents. A highlight for the children was a visit from a crew of Colchester Fire Station. They learnt all about their jobs and the clothing they wear, they showed us the fire engine and explained the equipment and everyone had a go on the hoses.

Thank you again for coming to see us.





Parent Partnership

The Parent Partnership morning held in October was very successful and we look forward to more next year.



Ofsted



In November, we were inspected by Ofsted and delighted to be awarded GOOD provider. This is testament to the dedication and hard work shown by all our team and also the support we receive from you as parents so thank you. It was a fantastic way to top off our 50th anniversary celebrations.

Christmas Fun

At Christmas we did a different style of performance this year instead of a nativity it was a Christmas concert and wow...the children were all amazing! We are sure you all enjoyed it as much as we did.





The following week, the children were treated to a Christmas party with magic show and they even had a special visitor.



New Equipment

Without the support from parents at our fundraising events, we wouldn't be able to continually refresh the equipment we have to enrich the children's learning and play. Thanks to the team's amazing fundraising efforts from 2019 and into the beginning of the 2020 term, we were able to purchase some wonderful items at the beginning of this year. We very much hope to be fundraising again next term so please keep reading our newsletters and Facebook page for our planned events.





There have been many challenges this year and we have had to operate preschool in a way that has never been done before but the team have risen to the challenge. The team will be sending out our policy for September and very much look forward to the new term.

We wish all of the children who will be starting school this year the very best for their future and thank you for being part of Layer Preschool.

Have a wonderful summer!

Caroline (Chair), Jo (Treasurer), Karena (Secretary), Rachel, Alice, Emma, Jane, Lucie, Georgina and Tara