

## News from Broadshires Pre-School

It was lovely to welcome back our children we hadn't seen since March, when Pre-School suddenly had to close due to lock down. We did re-open in June, but we were only able to have a small "bubble", so offered the places to the children who have now started primary school. What a difference 5 months makes, especially to the very young.

We offered an introductory play session on the 1 September, instead of the usual July date, to all the new children joining us. They came to meet all the staff, discover what fantastic toys and equipment we have and become a little familiar with the setting.

We have continued to adapt how we work to make it as safe as possible for all our children and staff. I am afraid that toys are no longer on free access, i.e. stored in boxes which the children can choose from at any time. We have moved the furniture and cordoned off the carpeted area, as this can't be cleaned every day. We can of course ask what the children would like to play with the next day or the next time they come. In this way, we know what has been played with, and it is disinfected at the end of the day or put into quarantine for 72 hours.

We have also re-designed our shed and covered decking, taking out most of one wall of the shed and incorporating the two. This has provided a far bigger area that protects us from sun, wind and rain. We are continuing to have an "outside Pre-School".

Our other exciting news is that we would like to welcome Lisa Hathaway to our staff team. She has a B.Ed.(Hons) and worked in both nursery and school, and has lots of experience to bring to the group.

We have a few places still available for this academic year, so if you are interested, have a look at our website and please contact [Jackie@broadshires-preschool.org.uk](mailto:Jackie@broadshires-preschool.org.uk) or ring pre-school 01367 860729. We are not allowing visits during Pre-School sessions at the moment.