Saturday 1st August was a day of mixed emotions, saying our official goodbye to children and parents as they begin their new adventure at Primary School.

It was wonderful to see so many children and relatives attend the event and enjoy the afternoon partying with Harvey the children’s entertainer and face painters.

Many thanks to the staff from Catering and the Sports Centre who every year fully support and enable the event to take place.

A huge thank you also to the Pre-School team who gave up their precious time off to ensure the day was another resounding success.
Mud! Mud! Glorious Mud!

On 29th June we celebrated National Mud Day. This was an opportunity for all to celebrate nature, outdoors, and mess by getting really really muddy!!!

It was a fantastic day with all the children and some staff getting very muddy in the process, we created a mud slide, made mud pies, did muddy hand and foot prints and had fun playing in mud.

Eco-Hub Fundraiser

Thank you to the Eco-Hub who organised a ‘Glut Market’ on 21st July in the LEC Courtyard and Atrium selling fresh fruit and vegetables from locally grown sources, with all monies raised going to the Pre-School

The total amount raised was £130.00 which will provide resources for the children’s food growing activities.

Family Matinees

Kara Cooper the Methodist Chaplain at the Chaplaincy Centre has organised a social event for new and current families who live on campus to encourage making new friends.

Family friendly matinees will be held on the following dates:-

- 17th October
- 14th November
- 19th December

All the matinees will take place at 10am in Fylde Common Room, everyone welcome!!

Under the Sea!!

The children in Crèche 1 have been enjoying exploring all the different textures, mirrors and objects in our sensory sea.

The children explored the different sea animals hidden among the coloured tubes and textured materials.
**Animal Sounds with Crèche 2**

We have been trying to make the most of the good weather by going out for walks with the children, and visiting the duck pond to see the ducks.

The children enjoyed observing what the ducks were doing and tried to copy them by saying ‘quack, quack’.

When we got back after our lovely walk, we listened to animal sounds on the iPad and tried to copy the sounds.

We have been encouraging the children to use sounds in play to help develop their language skills.

Friendship day was on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} August, Nursery 1 celebrated the day by starting the day off with a hug.

We continued the celebrations by playing a game, and the children enjoyed painting pictures of each other and making paper chain friends.

We talked about sharing, our friendships and the importance of being kind to each other.

**Splashing Fun!!**

The babies have had fun splashing around!!

The baby room got their paddling pool out and the children enjoyed climbing in and keeping cool.

We then enhanced the activity by adding ducks to the water and sang ‘five little ducks went swimming one day’. The babies responded with squeals of excitement.
**Fun in the Forest**

Nursery 2 has taken advantage of the good weather and we have been exploring the forest.

Some of us have been looking for bugs and insects, some have loved the space to run around and chase our friends and we’ve all loved retelling and acting out the story ‘We’re going on a Bear Hunt’.

Jo Jo was the bear and had to hide and children had to go and find her, the children initiated retelling the story and as they were finding the ‘bear’ they would say extracts of the story e.g. ‘uh-uh grass long, wavy grass, we can’t go over it, we can’t go under it, oh no we’ve go to go through it!!

**Good Bye Butterflies!!**

In Pre-School 2 we have recently said good bye to our butterflies, setting them free to fly around our forest.

We got very excited when the caterpillars first arrived and we watched them eat their food, grow very big and then spin a cocoon. We then collected some leaves and sticks and moved the cocoons into the butterfly net.

After a week the butterflies started to emerge from their cocoons. We put oranges and apples in for the butterflies to drink.

When the butterflies were strong enough we carried them carefully to the forest. We watched them fly away, but one of the butterflies was a bit reluctant to leave us and stayed on my finger!!
Good Luck at School

In Pre-School 3 we have been preparing the children for starting school to help them have a happy and smooth transition we have incorporated school activities into the planning and in all areas of learning in Pre-School.

We turned our home corner into a school, with school uniform to dress up in, book bags to use and registers and wipe boards to write on.

At circle time the children have been great at taking turns listening and sharing their own stories and ideas of school, talking about school activities, uniform, teachers and new friends and relationships they will make.

We have had stories about going to school and watch Topsy and Tim going to school on the computer. The children have enjoyed their teachers visiting us at Pre-School and telling us all about their visits to school too.

It’s been great to see pictures from parents of the children in their uniforms; they all seem happy and excited about starting their new adventure.

We are going to miss them all and wish them lots of luck and happiness.

Chick Update!!

Wow haven’t they grown!

Remember those fluffy little chicks we lovingly hatched back in April /May?

Well this is the latest photo of them!

I think we can safely assume they are thriving in Greg’s allotment.

Thanks for the updates Greg, looking forward to getting some eggs.
Busy time in Pre-School 1

We have been very busy in Pre-School over the last few weeks!!

We have been checking all the plants that we have grown and have enjoyed tasting peas straight from the pod – yummy!! Jo came to help us dig up our seed potatoes and there were lots and lots which we enjoyed eating for our snack.

As lots of us are going on holiday we have been looking at the globe and talking about our holidays and where we are visiting.

We have been using the IPad to look in more detail at different countries and cities. It has been lovely to receive some post cards and pictures by email from the children on their holidays, so that we can see where they have been.

As we get ready to say goodbye to our big boys and girls who are starting school we have been doing some fun activities chosen by the children which included making their own croissants for snack, baking chunky monkey cookies and making an ice palace.

We all wish the Pre-School 1 children lots of luck in starting school and we will miss you all loads!!!
**Flexible Benefits**

2015 -2016

Parents who chose to make their Pre-School bookings 2015/16 using the University Salary Sacrifice Scheme please be advised that a letter indicating your childcare costs has been uploaded to the CoreMyHR portal which can be accessed by clicking on the link below:

https://weblogin.lancs.ac.uk/login/?cosign=https-cosign2.lancs.ac.uk&https://weblogin.lancs.ac.uk/proxyauth/corehr-live

The letter does require a signature. It is therefore necessary for you to sign and return a copy of the letter to HR, this can be done electronically or via internal mail.

We have been advised that unless you will be accessing any other flexible benefits via the flexible benefits system you will not be required to take any further action.

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**Cooked Lunches**

From Tuesday 1st September we will be adopting our new cooked lunch system.

Children whose parents have pre-ordered their lunches will be offered, from the menu, a choice of meals (unless we have been otherwise advised).

The menu will be displayed outside the main kitchen.

For parents booking *additional extra sessions* it may be possible for you to book a lunch on these occasions. Please enquire at reception.

If you have any questions or queries please speak to one of the team.
Survey Results July 15

Thank you to all the parents who participated in the request for feedback in July 2015.

74 responses were received with the results now displayed on the WOW board in the foyer.

If you would like a copy of the survey results sending to you please do advise.

Congratulations to Amy, Caroline, Helen I, Helen K, Katie, Nichola and Yvonne for taking part in the Race for Life and raising an amazing £870.00.

They would like to take this opportunity to thank all who sponsored them.

Parent Information/Reminders

All current bookings will end on Friday 28th August. 2015/16 bookings will commence on Tuesday 1st September.

The Pre-School Centre will be closed on:-

- Monday 31st August for Bank Holiday
- Friday 11th September for Staff Training Day