Schorne PreSchool report for Parish Council

Current numbers

Children- 40

Staff- 5

Committee/Trustees- 3 unpaid trustees

1- paid admin

2- fundraisers

Activity

Preschool continues to be a buzzing, thriving environment for the children in our area. We pride ourselves on our 'family' atmosphere and our 'Good' with 'outstanding elements' Ofsted rating.

The children love our free flow environment and safe secure outside space where they're sharing the responsiblity with the After School Club for planting and looking after flowers and vegetables.

We are lucky to have stable, consistent, caring staff who make the place feel so safe for many of our children who don't have safe places at home. They truly go the extra mile for those children.

Our children often have visits around the village and are very much part of the community. They've also had a trip out to The Green Dragon Eco Centre this year which was funded by the donation from the Winslow Rotary Christmas Float donation. Other fundraisers have been cake sales, Christmas cards and the summer will see our quiz night and Summer Fete and fun sports day.

Finances

This year has been mixed. Due to reduced numbers our staff took a cut in their basic hours in order to save some of our money. This has meant a significant amount of our reserve finances has been eaten into. The advent of the After School Club was a venture that we hoped would increase our income and also provide an opportunity for our staff to increase their hours. The ASC was slow to start and at present we have anything from 3-8 children per evening. We have committed to running for the rest of the academic year but will need to review this as we are currently running at a loss. The ASC has cut it's days from five to four for the rest of this term.

As a team we have tried to analyse the reduction in numbers and after significant recruitment drives have realised that a number of other preschools have opened in the area attached to schools and therefore many of our potential children are going there.

Our finances are not in trouble yet but we are always aware of the need to cut costs as much as we can as we cannot afford to continue to eat into our reserves for much longer.

Our AGM will take place in September 2017.