**Chairperson’s Report September 2021**

Well, who would of thought we would have another year like last year! I would like to begin by saying a big thank you to all the Plymtree Pre-School Staff, Parents and Committee this year, in what has been another most unusual year. Of all the challenges that could have arisen this year, never did I think we’d have to contend with a global pandemic and national lockdown again. A huge thanks goes to Clare & the team for keeping the Pre-school open throughout the lockdown.

Credit for achieving this goes to pre-school staff led by Clare, and so my extra special thanks go out to them. Having such an experienced and committed team during this time has made things so much easier. The work that they put in to communicate and engage with our children, and then the care, time and effort taken to ensure that we could remain open is hugely valued and appreciated. Furthermore, I’d like to personally say a big thank you to Clare who has helped me manage the day-to-day operations throughout the year, without whom, pre-school really couldn’t function.

Due to two further lockdowns & social distancing, this meant that usual fundraising events were unable to take place. We did a pumpkin competition, Christmas hampers, letters to Santa & Easter egg competition. A massive thank you to Sarah for once again taking the leads on these events and to the entire committee for their help and support throughout the year. This money means we can continue to provide some great activities and equipment for the children, as well as training and development opportunities for the staff. Also, we were able to fund the Pre-school end of term trip to the Bear Trail.

We started the year with just 13 children, although this did rise to 18 by January. We ended the term with 23 which was fantastic. It was greatto see so many children at sports day & families cheering them on.

Unfortunately we were sad to hear that angela is leaving us on the 8th of October due to finding a full time position closer to home, she will be missed by everyone.

Finally, thank you to all the Committee members this year. I appreciate that we have all taken on our roles voluntarily and with limited time to spare, so my gratitude for all your hard work and time this year.

Becky Whitfield
September 2021