



NEWSLETTER 5

May 2017

Pre-school telephone number during sessions – 01494 711341

Emergency Mobile Number (during sessions) – 07928 703592

Sharon Dorme – 01494 716897

Dear Friends

Welcome back to our Summer Term!! We have an action packed term ahead of us, so please make a note of the dates and information provided in this newsletter – we will provide memory joggers as we go, as usual!

A warm welcome to the new children and families who have joined us this term – it is good to see you. Please do not hesitate to ask us if there is anything you are unsure of – the staff are always available to talk to you, and I know that Alison Higham (Joshua's mummy who is your parent representative on our Committee) and our other parents will be only too willing to provide you with support too!

Comic Relief

Thank you for your generosity at the lunch following our Spring Service at the end of last term. I have now sent the sum of £52.25 to support the work of this charity.



Mop End Visit – Friday 19th May 2017, 10am – 1pm

Our annual trip to Mop End is coming up quickly. **All** the children are invited to this activity, whether or not they usually attend on a Friday, and we do hope that they are able to come as it is such a fun visit where we learn lots about the world around us. There is **no pre-school at the church hall this day.**

Woodrow Family Sports and Picnic – Tuesday 20th June 2017 10am – 1pm

Our annual games and picnic morning is for **all** pre-school children, their parents and carers, and their younger siblings. A great morning of fun, games, socialising and of course picnicking!! Details and further information will follow nearer the time, but till then please put this date in your diaries!!

Police Visit – Thursday 15th June 2017

Our local community police officer, Chris Ging, will be visiting pre-school to talk to our older children about road safety, to introduce himself to the younger children - and then all the children will be able to have a look at his police car, and have a sit in it! Chris will become a familiar face to the children as he not only visits pre-school regularly, but his work with them carries on at their new schools.



School List

For those children who will be leaving us this summer to move on to school, please would you indicate on the form on the blackboard which school your child will be moving to, so we know where our transfer documents should be sent. Thank you.

New Intake Parent Meetings: 2 year Check, and Parent Interviews

If your child started pre-school this term, your key person will arrange a convenient time to have a chat with you about their progress. This will also give you the opportunity to have a look at your children's files and have a glimpse into their pre-school life!

Parent Interviews for our older children will take place during the week commencing Monday 12th June. A sign up list will be available for you after half – term.

As always, please do not wait for these sessions to talk to us if you have any concerns – we are available to chat to you at all times!

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC _ Thursday 20th JULY

ALL children are invited to join us @ 9.15am on this last day of term to help prepare and then enjoy a picnic with their teddy bears. Pre-school closes after the End of Term Concert. **Please note there will be NO afternoon session this day. Then we have our.....**

END of TERM CONCERT – Thursday 20th JULY- 11.30am

To finish the term and to say goodbye to those children moving on to school we will again be holding our end of term concert. The children will prepare some rhymes and songs, and the older children find

their confidence and perform their version of a traditional story for your entertainment – an event not to be missed! All the children will be involved in some way – please do make a note of the date! All are welcome in the church – parents, grandparents and carers, and siblings.

Calculators

Ujju is in the process of updating our Maths and Science trolleys, and has asked if any parents have any old calculators at home that you no longer use – the large button ones would be best for little fingers, with clear numbers. This is to show the children how the numbers that we learn about at pre-school are used in everyday life, and to extend the children's knowledge of technology. Please let me know if you can help us out. Thank you.

LUNCH CLUB

Lunch Club forms are now available for this half term. Please ask Sharon or Ruth if you would like your child to join in. Lunch Club runs on both Wednesdays and Thursdays for those children who do not stay for the afternoon sessions, but would like to stay and have lunch with their friends. Lunch Club finishes at 1:15pm for these children. We have a limited number of places available on both days if you would like your child to join us.



Chatting at home!!

We have a supply of 'chatterboxes' and 'rucksacks' which we would like to encourage you to borrow, take home, and enjoy with your child, encouraging them to talk to you about what they see and know, It is designed to be a special time for you and your child, and to encourage the children to grow in confidence as they learn to talk about what they see/feel etc. My only request is that, should an item be lost or broken, you replace it so the next person has the same enjoyment from the item that your child has had. Nikki is looking after this 'chatting matters' initiative – please do chat to her if you would like to borrow one of our 'chatterbags'!!_

Themes for this half term

You will have noticed that we show you on our parent information board the themes we are focusing on each week, and try to give you ideas for activities you can do at home with your child to support our activities. I know many of you already do lots of activities with your children, but please do ask if you would like any other information or ideas – there are lots of fun things you can do at home to support the work that we do with your children in pre-school.

Finally.....

Although this term has just started, we are already beginning to think about next term and the provision that we can offer, given the governments new 30 hours initiative that starts in Bucks in September. We are being asked by Bucks County Council to consider whether we would offer this as an option. Last time I requested information from you as parents the results were very mixed, with the general feeling at the time being that it would not be required by many parents.

In order to gain an up-to-date assessment of your feelings, please would you complete the attached questionnaire and let me have your reply as soon as possible. You will need to sign up for this option before next term starts if you would like to have it available to you – once a term has started you are then not able to join in until the beginning of the next term. The 30 hours initiative is only available to parents of children who receive 3 and 4 year old funding, and who meet certain criteria. If your child is currently 2 but you would be interested in this as an option in the future please would you mark the form accordingly. Thank you! If you are unsure whether you meet the criteria please would you check on the Bucks County Council website.

We finish for our our half term break on Friday 26th May, and return to pre-school on June 6th.

Sharon Dorme and all the pre-school staff.

Dates for your diary

Friday 19th May 2017: Mop End Outing

Week commencing 22nd May 2017: 2 year check interviews

Friday 26th May 2017: Half term begins

Monday 5th June 2017: Pre-School re-opens
Week commencing 12th June 2016: Parent Interviews
June 15th 2017: Police visit
June 20th 2017: Woodrow Games and Picnic morning, details to follow
Thursday 20th July 2017: Teddy Bears Picnic, and End of Term Concert
Thursday 20th July 2017: Pre-School closes for the summer.

Pre-School reopens Wednesday 6th September 2017

General Information

Parking

I know that parking can be a bit difficult when dropping off and collecting your child, but **please would you ensure that you do not block the driveway** to the pre-school. We do need to be able to park staff cars off the road, and ensure that there is sufficient room for emergency vehicles to

Outdoor Clothes for Outdoor Play and Changes of Clothes!!!

With the expected change in the weather this term (we are ever hopeful!!), please could you make sure that your child now has a **named** sunhat with them each day, preferably that we can keep at pre-school for the term. (We do have a generous supply of spares if one is forgotten one day, but the children do prefer to wear their own!). The children are learning how important it is for them to wear their hats, and our rule is that they **must** wear a hat if they want to play outside.



Please also remember to provide your child with a complete change of clothes and leave it on their peg – this is not just for ‘accidents’ - we do play with water a lot during our sessions, particularly this term and, while we do try to teach hand/eye co-ordination, sometimes the water just doesn’t do what they want it to!!!

Please would you also apply sun cream to your child before they come in to pre-school.

Water Bottles.

Please can each child bring in a water bottle for use during the session? This should be left in the ‘shape group’ boxes by the name cards in the morning and be collected at the end of each morning. We provide drinks at snack time (and during the session too if the children request them) but this helps the children to be independent, learn to recognise when they are thirsty and know where they can find their drink, again **particularly during the warmer weather this term**. Please ensure the water bottles are labelled clearly and **only contain water!!**

Food in Pre-school.

Please do not bring in food for the children without prior consultation. We aim to keep the pre-school a **nut – free zone** and we also have children with other special dietary requirements.



Messages from Home

Should your child comment on pre-school (good or bad) when at home we would love to know their thoughts; also we would like to know of anything they may have done or achieved in their home life which they are proud of, or would like to tell us about. Please write it down on one of the “Messages from Home” slips.

If your child is unwell.....

If your child has a temperature, is sick in the night, has a heavy cold or is taking antibiotics, please do **not** send them to pre-school. If a child has sickness or diarrhoea they **must** be free from both for **48 hours** before returning. **Please don’t forget** to let us know if your child is to be absent from pre-school – a quick phone call will be sufficient if your child is unwell, but I would like to have a letter advising me of holiday absences.

Complaints:

A copy of our Complaints Policy/Procedure is available on request. In the event of you having a complaint against the pre-school that cannot be settled “in house”, your next point of call is OFSTED as stated in the policy/procedure. OFSTED HELPLINE 0300 123 1231. We hope this will not be necessary

