



## PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE CLUBS NEWSLETTER

**Welcome Back! We hope you all had a good break at half term.**

**Term dates-** We will finish this term on 16<sup>th</sup> December at 12. Noon. There **will be no** after school club that day. Invoices will be credited if you normally have a booked after school club that day. We will be back open for business as usual on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**Half term maintenance-** During half term we added another ton of sand to our sandpit! We also installed blackboards, white boards and a large unbreakable (Metal) Mirror, on our stage.

**New fence and gates-** If your child attends after school club, please ensure they put bikes and scooters in the bike shed near the terrapin building next to our pathway, as this will be accessible as you leave our premises. Please bear in mind we are unable to access the school playground and the new bike shed. Also due to the high numbers of children in school attending clubs and out of our activities through the school, please do not drive onto the playground under any circumstances to collect your children. There have been several instances of parents climbing over the fence, and lifting their children over. This is not acceptable and we ask you to not do this as it encourages children to follow suit.

**Nearly New sale-** held on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2-4 pm at Dean Court Community Centre. Thank you to everyone that organized, helped, and attended at this event. There were lots of new families involved and for this we are grateful. It was a great hall for this event, with parking, and good facilities and we made £300 profit having spent £45 on the hall and not taking as much on cakes as when we have it in the precinct, however it was well attended and many people bought lots of toys, clothes and equipment. We will be running another in the spring so watch out for more information.

**Holiday Club-** I can now confirm that we are able to run a Holiday club for Christmas shopping Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> and possibly Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup>, subject to demand, however it is going to be for school aged children only. It will be run by Debbie our play leader with other staff assisting on various days. If you are interested please let us know either via e mail or phone (01865 794287). I realise this doesn't help if you are looking for holiday cover for preschool children however the government specifies ratios required to

look after preschool children, and we haven't managed to recruit staff to run one this time. If we don't have enough children to cover costs we will have to cancel.

## **Afterschool Club-**

If your child attends a club after school, or is going to miss a session or be attending another club, please let us know. It saves staff time, by not having to look for a child, or ring you at home/ work to see where they are. This can delay activities starting as it affects staff ratios to cover all areas.

**Staffing-** We are still looking for someone to help out at afterschool club. It would be beneficial if they have some experience / training and need to be at least 17 years of age and we will require a DBS check, and 2 references for any successful applicants. It is a role that would suit a student, so if you know anyone who would like to work with children and a great team, please speak to Ruth, email [nhps.manager1@gmail.com](mailto:nhps.manager1@gmail.com) or phone 01865794287.

## **Preschool**

**Key Persons discussions- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November.** Please, book your slot with your individual key person. The slots will be 10 mins long and are an opportunity for you to discuss how your preschooler is getting on. If you are unable to make this evening we will be able to accommodate a small number of meetings with your key person after this event. We are always available to discuss any concerns or individual queries you have.

## **Preschooler Christmas dates for your diary-**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December-** Christmas entertainment/ Party 2-3pm.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December-** Santa is coming!! Please note more information to follow on these events once logistics are confirmed!

**Preschooler's belongings-** Please can you check your child's belongings to ensure there are enough things for changes (including shoes) during the day. Please make sure they have warm coats, hats, gloves etc. and suitable footwear, for the time of year.

**Please make sure everything is labelled including lunch boxes!!** We do have a box full of unclaimed items that will be recycled at the end of term, if not claimed.

**Nut-free-**Please note we are a nut-free setting, as is the school. If you are providing packed lunches please make sure you cut up grapes and cherry tomatoes.

**Nappies**-Please provide nappies/ wipes and cream if you child is at this stage and discuss toilet training with your key person, when required. It is important we are consistent to help children with this important aspect of their development,

**Breakfast club**-If you are have a child that is just attending preschool sessions starting at 9.00am. Please note we cannot let them come into until the sessions start time at 9.00 due to ratios. Some parents with preschoolers pay for breakfast club, therefore they may appear to be dropping off early however in reality they are arriving late for breakfast club, not early for preschool!

**Collection**- If you need to speak to your key person at collection, could you please come into the preschool, rather than at the door. With the numbers of families we have it is difficult for staff to manage this hand over of children when there are conversations taking place in the doorway.

If you have any concerns or would like to discuss anything further please feel free to contact me.

Ruth Vaughan

Setting Manager

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