



PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE CLUBS NEWSLETTER

Welcome to all our new families...we have been busy settling in 23 new preschool children, 13 of whom are two years old. We hope you are all enjoying the new experience and remind you if you have any questions or concerns please either speak to your key person or myself, (Ruth). If it's easier phone or email.

We also have new families joining us in after school club and breakfast club so we also hope you are settling into the new routines and are being made to feel welcome.

Term dates- We will finish this term on 21st October 2016. There **will** be after school club that day.

Summer Maintenance- We are very grateful for the building works carried out over the summer by the school. I hope you agree the building looks very smart! There will be a maintenance day coming soon, so if you feel like popping along to help fill a skip, or our sand pit please let me know. The date is TBC so please watch this space.

New Fence and gates- The school have also installed a new fence and gates, to keep all our children safe. I am sure you can appreciate this is of paramount importance. 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.

Nearly New sale- You may (or may not) know that the Preschool holds regular nearly new sales to raise funds for the setting. Our next one will be held on October 15th, 2-4 pm at Dean Court Community Centre. Please note that this is a different time and venue than in previous years.

If you are thinking of having a pre-Christmas declutter and would like to find out more about selling then please talk to Rachael Monks (Lucy's mum) or Emily Bondzie-Dunn (Terence's mum). Between us we are at drop off and pick up every day, so you should be able to spot one of us! Or email northinkseynearlynewsale@gmail.com.

As well as sellers, we need buyers! So put the date in your diary and find out what the fuss is all about. It's a great opportunity to pick up a bargain Christmas present and to kit your kids out for winter.

We are also looking for people to help us on the day. If you think you could spare any time, please do get in touch. We'll be selling tea and cake, so all donations of baked goods will be appreciated!

We look forward to hearing from you!

Holiday Club- I can now confirm that we are able to run a Holiday club during October half term (Mon 24th- 28th Fri), 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.

Meet the committee- We now have a new chair Nick Dunn, and three other new members. Thank you all. Amazingly we currently have a full quota of committee members, however if you are interested in helping with the Nearly New sale or any other way please let us know.

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 News-We welcome Clare Megarity onto our staffing team. Clare is experienced in working with children, she worked before in preschool and after school club, as well as in school, so we are thrilled to have her on our team.

Preschool

Forest School- If your child is attending Forest school they will be going straight to the Hive to get ready at 9.00. It would be helpful to not bring them into the playroom as it delays the start of this great session.

Preschooler's belongings- Please can you check your child's belongings to ensure there are enough things for changes during the day. Please make sure they have spare shoes.

Please make sure everything is labelled!!

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 if your child is wearing them and discuss toilet training with your key person. It is important we are consistent to help children with this important aspect of their development,

Breakfast club-If you 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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