



Newsletter December 2007

Christmas Party and Nativity Play

This is on **Tuesday 18 December** at **Downton Baptist Church., South Lane**. If you have not already been asked, please could girls bring in a princess/ball/party dress for wearing in the Christmas show, and could the boys please bring in a red top. Many thanks.

A quick reminder of the times. Please drop your child off at the Baptist Hall at 12 noon for the party. Parents and carers are welcome back from 1.45 for a 2pm prompt start for the Nativity Play.

Next term

Next term our topic will be '**People Who Help Us**' and we are hoping to organize visits from the emergency services, which the children usually really enjoy.

We are also hoping to arrange more short walks for the children. If you are able to volunteer as an escort for these outings, we would be very grateful, as this would enable us to take more children. More details of planned outings to follow.

Bad weather closures

If Pre-school has to close due to adverse weather conditions, we will try to get a message broadcast on Spire FM and BBC Radio Wiltshire on or after 8am. If in doubt, ring one of our bad weather contact people: Kirsten Sykes (01725 512868) or Andrea

Ware (01725 514436), after 8am. Pre-school will *always* close if the Primary School has to close due to bad weather.

Lunch club

We have spaces available every day for **lunch club**. If you would like to book a casual lunch club, from 11:30 to 12:30, just bring £2.50 and a packed lunch on the day and book in (subject to space being available. It's best to check beforehand for busier days, i.e. Monday and Friday).

We currently have the following spaces free:

Mon: 7

Tue: 9

Wed: 11

Thu: 10

Fri: 6

Contact Pre-school on: 01725 511178

(Answering service out of hours)

Fundraising News

Our Christmas Bazaar on 24 November raised £327.50, with which we are very pleased. Thank you to everyone who baked cakes, donated raffle prizes and helped on the day, including Antoinette Machin (Freddie's mum) and Becky Smith (Sam's mum), and Tess' sister Sally Brown. Not forgetting the hard-working Committee.

Pre-school is delighted to have received a **brand-new computer**, a donation from **IBM**. Our old computer does not have sufficient memory to run some games and

educational software, so we are looking forward to being able to do more IT-based activities with the children. IT skills are useful to them when they go up to primary school. Thanks to IBM, and also to David Ware for arranging this.

Pub Quiz! We are hoping to run another Pub Quiz in aid of Pre-school funds at the White Horse, one Sunday in January. Date tbc.

And remember to do your online shopping at: **www.buy.at/downtonpreschool**, as a percentage of sales comes to us at no cost to you. Retailers include M&S, Amazon, John Lewis, Tesco, Asda, and Mothercare.

Tesco Sports

Please bring in all your **Tesco Sports** vouchers by the end of term, as we will be sending off our order over the Christmas holidays. The box is in the entrance lobby. Thank you for all your vouchers so far.

Committee Meetings

Anyone who is involved with Pre-school is welcome to attend our **Committee Meetings** – you do not have to be a Committee member, and you won't find yourself 'volunteered' for anything you don't want to do! It's a good way to find out how Pre-school is run. The next meeting is on **Tuesday 22 January, 8pm**, in the **White Horse**.

Term dates

Term 2 ends Friday 21 December 2007
Term 3: 7 Jan – 15 Feb 2008
Term 4: 25 Feb – 4 Apr 2008
Term 5: 21 Apr – 23 May 2008
Term 6: 2 Jun – 25 Jul 2008

Easter is 21 and 24 March 2008
Bank Holiday 5 May 2008.

Web site

A reminder of our web site:
<http://www.downtonpreschool.co.uk/>

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas! See you in the New Year!