



Newsletter February 2008

This Term's Topic

Our topic for this term will be **SPRING!** We will be going on spring walks to look for signs of spring and talking about spring lambs, frogs, how things grow and spring weather, as well as Easter.

Parents' Event

The **parents' event this term** will be on **Tuesday 12th February** from 12.30 onwards, and will take the form of a 'Come and Play' session. We will be showing you ordinary activities provided at Pre-school and how they link with the foundation stage curriculum and the six areas of learning. Come along, have a play, a chat, and a cup of tea or coffee! There will be a raffle of a Valentine's Cake. **Two year olds and younger children are welcome** to come with their parents, grandparents or other carers.

Ready for School

Parents of children going on to primary school in September will be receiving information concerning our '**ready for school**' afternoons. These will begin after Easter. Could you please let us know which primary school your child will be attending as we will need to send on their transfer documents in the summer term.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Andrea Ware for all the work she does as Admissions Officer, which is complicated and time consuming, and which she does for us on an entirely voluntary basis.

Parent rota

We are going to re-introduce our **parent rota** and this will be displayed on the front door. Please consider staying to help for a session if you feel your child is settled. It is a great way to see what a session is like, get to know staff and see the sort of things your child likes to do here and the children with whom they are friendly.

Chocoholics Evening

We are arranging a 'Chocoholics Evening' for Friday 25 February at the Pre-school. This should be a fun evening for everyone who loves chocolate! More details to follow.

Pub Quiz

Our **Pub Quiz** at the White Horse raised a fantastic £100. Thanks to Paul the landlord, and Christopher the quiz master, and everyone who donated raffle prizes and came along to support us. The money raised will pay for Makaton training for a member of staff.

More Fundraising News

Yellow Moon orders have raised £8.10 for Pre-school. We would like to say a big Thank You to Joanne Philp for organising this. Joanne has to step down from this role as she needs to time to study for an NVQ. We will still be distributing the Yellow Moon catalogues, but without Joanne's 'P&P' service.

We have also received another voucher from School Link to spend on books, this time for £11.10. We ordered some new titles from the latest catalogue. Thank you for your orders which make this possible.

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 26 February, 8pm**, in the **White Horse**.

Waiting list

If you have a child under 2, do consider putting in an application form for Pre-school – this will ensure you have a place on any waiting list we need to operate. It will also help our forward planning.

Childcare Vouchers

Pre-school can now accept payment in the form of Childcare Vouchers. We are currently registered with BusyBees and Accor.

For more details, see:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/childcare/employees-guidance.htm>

Term dates

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.

Our Staff

A reminder of the names of our staff.

Tessa Rhoades (Pre-School Leader)

Gay Golding (Deputy Leader)

Debbie Vincent (Pre-school Assistant)

Nicky Lanham (Pre-school Assistant)

Lisa Fox (Pre-school Assistant)

Sarah Price (Pre-school Assistant)

Lynne Godwin (Pre-school Assistant)

James Creesey (Student Placement)

Helen Aebischer (Book-keeper)

Rosalind Johnson (Admin Officer)

In the next newsletter – a list of Committee members and their responsibilities.