



November

2010

NEWSLETTER

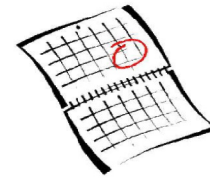
Welcome back, we hope you had a good half term break. The only new starter this term is Lillia in the 2 year old session, we hope she enjoys her time with us.

This term is always busy with the run up to Christmas but we hope it will be a fun one too. Our main focus will be on **SPACE**. We will be looking at how we travel in space, what we might find when we get there and thinking about light and dark.



The last two weeks will, of course, be all about Christmas and will culminate in our ever unpredictable, but always memorable Nativity

As always you are very welcome to help out at any sessions or accompany us on any outing around the village or to the Adventure Garden at the primary school please let us know when you would like to.



Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 16th November – Downton Primary School open morning for parent of children starting school September 2011, 9-10:30am.

Friday 3rd December – Downton Primary School Christmas Extravaganza

Friday 10th December – Partridge Fair

Tuesday 14th December -Christmas Party and Nativity (details to follow) *and*

Disco at Downton Primary School, 5-6pm, £1 entry, all child must be accompanied.

Thursday 16th December – ScrapStore visit Clearbury Children's Centre, 10am-12:30pm

2011 Primary School Admissions

If your child was born between 1 September 2006 and 31 August 2007, they are due to start school in September 2011 and you must apply for a school place by 15 January 2011. You can apply online at <https://admissions.wiltshire>



Christmas Extravaganza

Pre-school have been invited to have a stall at the Primary School Christmas Extravaganza. We want to sell Hot Chocolate Kits and Cakes and have a Lucky Dip. In order to do this we will need some help!



We would like donations on jar wilt lids for the hot chocolate, any small toy suitable for a luck dip (leftover party bag fillers are ideal) and, of course, nearer the time cakes to sell. Maybe you could produce a plate of fairy cake or chocolate crispies, a sponge, flapjack, brownies or a loaf cake, anything really!



We will also need some volunteers to help on the night, even if you can only manage half an hour we'd be really grateful. Let us know if you can.

We will be having a jar filling and lucky dip wrapping morning at Andrea's house on Wednesday 1st December, 9:30am, come along if you can.



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If you want to place an order from the My Book Corner catalogue please return the form to pre-school by **Friday 26th November**. Please make all **cheques payable to Scholastic Ltd** and put your name and address on the back. You have raised **£25** in book voucher for pre-school this year. Thank you.

Bad Weather

If we have snow and you are unsure whether pre-school is open please listen to Spire FM, we will endeavour to get a message on air if we are closed. We will also put a message on our website www.downtonpreschool.co.uk.



Sweatshirts and T shirts

We have new stock, just ask if you'd like one. T-shirts are £5 and Sweatshirts are £10.



Partridge Fair



Once again we have been asked to have a stall at the The Partridge Fair on 10th December. This was a great fundraiser for Pre-school last year but we will need help again with donations of Gingerbread to sell. If you could bring any gingerbread creations into pre-school in the week starting 6th December we would be very grateful. We will also be needing volunteers to help on the stall at the fair in the evening, please let us know if you can help.

Fundraising

Last year a group of mums got together and took part in a sponsored bike ride, they raised £268 for pre-school which we have spent on scooters. If anyone would like to hold another one-off fundraising event speak to anyone on the parent committee who will be able to lend support and advice.

Ink Cartridge Recycling

If you have any empty ink cartridges they can be recycled via pre-school. We receive money for each one we recycle. There is a box in the porch in which you can deposit the empties. Over the last year we have raised £28, so spread



the word!

Pip's Pots

Panda Club are hosting a pottery painting session run by Pip's Pots (www.PipsPots.co.uk) on Tuesday 23rd

November. Children can paint Christmas decorations, plates or mugs and you can have hand and foot print put on to plates. All piece will be returned to Panda Club on 7th December. Open to non-Panda Club members, the session runs from 9:30 to 11am.



Don't forget



If you are buying something online have a look at www.buy.at/downtonpreschool and see if the online store you want is listed, then just click on it to shop as usual and you will earn pre-school a commission. Stores that give commission to pre-school include Amazon, Asda, Marks and Spencer, Late Rooms, Play.com and Waterstones.

Planning

Our planning sheets are now available on the website attached to the terms newsletter. Please ask if you would like a paper copy.

Knowledge Understanding of the World

Talking about what winter weather is like

Learning about space

Looking at light & Dark

Thinking about the Christmas story through the Nativity

Making Christmas mincemeat



Creative Development

Using instruments to accompany singing

Learning new songs

Creating junk model fireworks

Wax resist painting

Learning new songs and rhymes including Nativity

Making clay decorations

Printing wrapping paper

Mathematical Development

Puzzles

Numerals 0-5 and 0-10

Shape activities

Sorting activities

Looking at 'measures' through cooking activities



Communication, Language & Literacy

New vocabulary linked to topics

Listening for initial sounds

Looking at books and stories about space

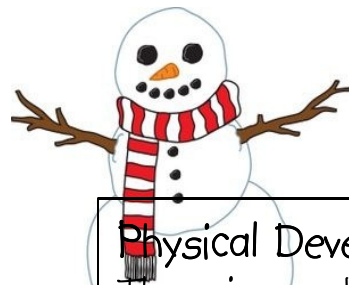
Mark making indoors and outside on small and large scale

Week 1 - Bonfire night & Fireworks

Weeks 2-4 - SPACE

Week 5 - Winter Weather

Weeks 6 & 7 - Christmas



Physical Development

Throwing, catching and kicking

Model making

Staying safe

Using all our senses through a range of activities



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Safety with fireworks & bonfires

Taking turns with toys and during games

Working in small groups

Encouraging independence in self care and dressing

Performing in Nativity