

NEWSLETTER

September 2009



Welcome to Joshua, Max, Edward, Lewis, Ellie, Archie, William, Elise, Brooke, Ryan, Alfie and Felix who have all joined us this term. Everyone seems to be settling in well and making new friends which is lovely

As you will have seen our topic this term is **Homes and Families** we would love it if you could bring in a



photo of your child with their immediate family which we could put up on display and share (they will all be returned afterwards). This will help us all to get to know each other better and build the children's sense of community.

We have developed a new "parent's area" over the summer so please have a look at the noticeboards as you come into the room. On the right you will find the children's Learning Journeys which you may look at whenever you wish, have a seat on the comfy chair and browse! There is also a suggestion box for ideas/activities and a box to let us know about your children's achievements at home.

On the left the noticeboard has fliers and notices about activities and clubs which are going on locally. I hope that on the table to put books and articles that may be of interest to parents.

In the next couple of weeks we will be "checking in" with parents of children who were with us last year to chat about their progress and strengths and to think about future "goals". Your keyperson will be asking for a few minutes of your time to do this at a convenient moment.

We are looking forward to a busy, exciting and fun first term!

A few notices for parents of new starters and reminders for "old hands"!

- Don't forget to check your book bag regularly for letters and notices.
- Please can you let us know if you change any of your contact details, including changes of address and phone numbers.
- Can all children bring a named drinks bottle filled with water to each sessions.
- Please don't park or drive up Gravel Close, it can get very busy with lots of children around. This is something that we try to adhere to, along with the Primary School, for the children's safety and in consideration of the residents of Gravel Close.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Fees

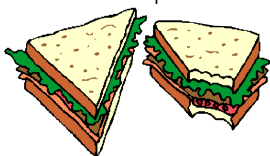
Invoices have been issued and payment date is **Friday 18th September**, we would appreciate prompt settlement.

For parents of children moving up to the 3 to 5 year old sessions at half term you will have noticed that you have received 2 invoices. This is because we always invoice for the whole pay period, Terms 1 and 2. Anyone wanting to split the payment of their invoice should please speak to either Andrea or Antoinette, our Treasurer. Parents of children who are in receipt of the Free Entitlement will have to sign the headcount form from Wiltshire Council. We'll let you know when this has to be done.

A reminder that the cost of a 2 ½ hour session has increased from the start of this term. A session is now £7.50. The cost of the 2 to 3 year old session and lunch clubs will remain unchanged at £7.00 and £2.50 respectively.

Lunch Club

There are spaces in Lunch Clubs everyday so if you need an extra hour or your child want to stay to lunch just bring along £2.50 and a packed lunch.



Coffee Morning

There will be a coffee morning on Monday 21st September in The Stables at the White Horse Inn. From 9am (after dropping the children at pre-school!) Please come along, we'd love to see you.



Pre-school T-shirts

Optional Pre-school t-shirts and sweatshirts with the Sunflower logo are available to order now. The T-shirts are priced £5.00 and the Sweatshirts £9.00, let us know if you would like one by Friday 25th September.



Money

Please could we ask that if you bringing money into pre-school, for example, for Lunch Clubs or t-shirt payment can you bring the correct money in a sealed envelope with what the payment is for and your child's name written on the front. This would be a huge help to us as our priority is welcoming the children at the start of sessions and not trying to remember who has given us money! Thank you.



Future Numbers

We predict that this going to be a large year for pre-school as we are already busy, and some parents are wanting to increase their child's sessions. Because of this we are thinking of opening another afternoon session, a Tuesday or Wednesday. If you were wanting to increase your child's sessions we will have to ask that you can be as flexible as possible and we will do our best to accommodate you, bearing in mind our admissions policy of 3

sessions in the child's first year with us and 5 (3 morning and 2 afternoon sessions) the year before they start school.

Similarly if you are able to move to a different day to help parents who can only do certain days, due to work commitment , for example, we would love to hear from you.

If anyone knows of or has younger children that are not on our waiting list and would like to be, please ask for an enrollment form. It really helps with our planning if we have an idea of how many children are wanting to start in the near future.

Tesco and Sainsburys Vouchers

Your collections of vouchers were fantastic. We have taken delivery of a zig-zag tunnel, sports bag and a tailed number ball from Sainsburys and are awaiting the thing we ordered from Tesco. Thank you so much for all the vouchers you collected.

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.

School Link Books

If you'd like to order any books please can we have the form and cheque by Friday 25th September.

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.



Committee Meeting

Our next committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th October at 8pm in The White Horse Inn. We love to see you there.