

NEWSLETTER

October 2008



Term One has been great and we have done a lot of "sneaky learning" (as one parent put it!) about shapes and colours. We hope you will be able to come along to this term's Parents Event on the 22nd October from 12:30pm onwards.

We will be singing lots of songs and sharing how we have been learning. Refreshments will be available afterwards with a chance to chat to Keyworkers and other parents.

Next term's topics will be Italy, Winter and, of course, Christmas. At present our Nativity is scheduled for 16th December in the Baptist Church.

Halloween Pumpkin Competition

Over the holiday we would like you to get busy carving pumpkins with your children. Kits will be available from pre-school during the last week of term including a stencil, a delicious pumpkin pie recipe and a tea light.



Please could you bring a photo of your pumpkin back to pre-school so that we can display them and the children can show each other what they've been up to. There will be a small prize for every child who brings in a photo. All money raised will be going towards our Sensory Garden project

Photographer

Hallet Photography will be in pre-school on Friday 28th November. If you want to have your child's picture taken but he/she does not attend on Fridays they are welcome to come along but you will have to stay with them whilst they have their picture taken. We have been told that the pictures will be delivered in time for Christmas!

2 to 3 Year Old Open Session

On Thursday 20th November from 1pm our 2 to 3 year old session will be an "open house". If you have a child who will be able to start soon or have any friends who might be interested please do come along. All new children must be accompanied and it will be an opportunity to meet staff and see what happens during a typical session.



PRE-SCHOOL T-SHIRTS

New pre-school T-shirts and Sweatshirts with the Sunflower logo are available. The T-shirts are priced £5.00 and the Sweatshirts £9.00. For this initial order we would need to have numbers and payment up-front but additional orders will be processed individually. Orders by **Friday 14th November** please.



Borrowed Clothing

Please could you be sure that you return any clothing that we sometimes need to send the children home in. Particularly underwear as we have run out of girls socks again!



Any clothing donations are very welcome. Thank you.

Book Bags

Please could you also make sure that you check your child's book bag regularly. We use this as our method of communicating with you as you will appreciate that picking up and dropping off time can be very busy and it is not always possible to speak to everyone individually.

Helpers

We have had several parents who have stayed as parent helpers during sessions which has been brilliant, I hope they have enjoyed it as much as we do. My thanks to Rai. Toby's Mum, who brought in her African drums which was fantastic and it can't have been too bad as she's coming again next term! Please feel free to stay whenever you would like and if there are any grandmas or grandpas who would be interested that would be great too!

Contact Details

Could we remind everyone to let us have up-to-date contact details if you have moved house or changed phone numbers.

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Pampered Chef Evening

Thursday 27th November, 7:30 to 9:30pm
Downton Primary School

We will be holding a Pampered Chef cookery demonstration evening which will include the opportunity for you to buy some fantastic cooking equipment. So book your table early as there will be limited availability.



As part of the evening, to raise money for the Sensory Garden we will be holding a Food Raffle. We would really love any "foody" donations, so if any of you are a dab hand at making pickles, chutneys or jams or anything else they would be gratefully received!

Yellow Moon

Please return any Yellow Moon orders by Friday 14th November.

Buy at

For those of you who are new to pre-school Buy at is a website which donates money to pre-school every time you buy something online. Just go to www.buy.at/downtonpreschool and then click on the

online store that you want to shop at, the rest is done for you and doesn't cost you a penny.

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 13th December, 10:30am to 12:30pm
Downton Memorial Hall



If you know of anyone who would like a table speak to Debbie Quilter. We will also be needing plenty of helpers on the day.

Phoenix Cards

Please can we have all Phoenix Cards orders back to pre-school by Friday 24th October, the orders should be with you the week we start back after the holiday.

For Sale

We would like to start a For Sale Board in the Newsletter. If you would like to advertise anything that you would like to sell, write the details, including your contact number, and hand them to a member of staff or email admin@downtonpreschool.co.uk

Lastly...

Spring Term 2009

For children in receipt of Nursery Grant

We have been advised by the Wiltshire County Council Nursery grant team that the week **30th March to 3rd April 2009** will **NOT** be Grant funded. Pre-school will be open, so parents will be asked to pay for all sessions attended during that week. However, you may choose for your child(ren) not to attend that week, but we should like to know in advance so that we can plan staffing. We will ask you to indicate your choice when booking Spring Term (terms 3 & 4) sessions on the Session Confirmation Form, which you will receive in November.

Have a great holiday, Pre-school starts back on Monday 10th November.