



# NEWSLETTER

January 2019 - Term 3 2018 /19

**Welcome back everyone to the Spring term. We hope you all enjoyed your Christmas and New Year festivities. Thank you so much for all our lovely gifts and kind words, they were much appreciated. We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new children and families: Lurenna, Chester, Lewis, Oscar, Theo M and Theo H. We hope you will be very happy and have lots of fun! Now, down to business with lots to tell you!**

## FRIENDS OF THE PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you so much to everyone who came to the nativity and Christmas party and generously donated to our amazing raffle prizes. The hampers were incredible! Because of your generosity, we raised £192 which will be equally split between the pre-school and our designated charity, The Nest children's home in Limuru, Kenya.

A special thank you to Kristy and Sophia, who helped Mrs Shaw by creating the hampers and Lucie for donating the mince pies, you are all Stars! If you would like to help out the FOPS this year, we would love to hear from you. We have lots of events to plan for but can't do it without you. Please speak to Mrs Shaw who can tell you what help is needed. Thank you.

## SUGGESTIONS JAR

You can find our suggestions jar outside the front door each day. Please feel free to add any ideas you may have as we are always keen to hear new ideas and suggestions that can make our pre-school even better!

We have had some super ideas already (water bottles, which we have put in place) and pre-school photographs that we had planned to do in the better weather. We also have an idea that some of the staff and a mummy came up with, but we can't tell you yet as we are looking into organising it! We will let you know as soon as we can.

Another lovely mummy has suggested we have a contact group (e.g. Whatsapp) that parents can join for social reasons; playdates, coffee mornings etc. so if you are interested to meet other parents, please pass your number onto Mrs Shaw.

If this is something that any of you are interested in, please can we ask that it is used only for the purpose it is created

for, not for any issues or problems, these you must bring to the attention of pre-school. Thank you for your co-operation.

## 30 HR EEF RENEWAL REMINDER

In order to receive and avoid any shortfall in the 30HR EEF funding all parents must check and reconfirm their details every 3 months via their Tax-Free Childcare account. Any shortfall in the funding will be passed on to you the parent.

## REMINDERS

Apologies, but we're now going to nag!

1. Please label everything, including the green drawstring bags.
2. Check your child's bag for spare seasonal clothing. A full set of clothes including underwear and socks in case of accidents or spillages.
3. If your child is in nappies/pull ups, please put in spares along with wipes and nappy sacks.
4. Drawstring bags only, not rucksacks as space is an issue.
5. One set of outdoor shoes (this time of year wellie boots) and one set of indoor footwear (slippers, canvas shoes, trainers if you prefer)
6. If your child has a set of waterproofs and they wish to wear them, please label and put in their bag. Some children get distressed if they have to wear something that is not familiar to them.
7. 'WOW's for the key group boards- if your child achieves something at home you and they wish to celebrate e.g. got their own shoes on, cleaned their teeth unaided etc. you can put a note on the board for us all to see. If you would like more information, please see your child's key person.

## MOBILE PHONES

As part of our safeguarding policies and procedures, we do not allow mobile phones or SMART watches to be used in pre-school. Staff have their phones locked away during session and are only allowed to use them during their lunch break when they are in sight of the rest of the team. Any visitors to our pre-school are also asked to lock their phones away and have them returned when they leave. We would like to ask your co-operation with regards to mobile phones. Please do not come into pre-school using your phone either by receiving or making phone calls or by sending messages. If you need to answer your phone or make a call, please go outside. We will be stopping you from using your phones so please don't put us in the position of having to ask you to leave the premises. Thank you.

## SNOW ARRANGEMENTS

As the weather has been rather changeable lately, we thought we had better remind you of our snow arrangements. Please rest assured that we do not close the pre-school if we can help it, but with staff traveling to work and some having children themselves whose schools may close, we will only be able to open if it is feasible to do so.

The arrangements are as follows:

- . We will post a newsfeed on Famly as soon as the decision is made
- . We will post the closure on Facebook .

Fees will not be refunded for closure due to adverse weather conditions as the weather is completely out of our control.

## FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS

If there are any family celebrations or festivals that you would like us to engage in at pre-school, please let us know. We have enjoyed exploring Diwali, Eid, All Hallows (Halloween) patron saint days, Christmas and Easter as well as Mother's Day and Father's Day. If there are any other events you would like to share with us, please let us know. Thank you.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Please notify Lisa Naji (via a message on FAMLY) if your child would like to join Music on Monday PM or Rugbytots on Friday AM. These are optional and run in session for a cost of £5 per week.

## Help Please

Does anyone have a microwave they could donate please, as ours is on its last legs! Thank you.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**18th – 22nd February** Half term

**25th March** Parents evening

**28th March** Easter fun morning all welcome

**1st April – 22nd April** Easter holidays

**6th May** Bank holiday

**23rd May** 8.45-12.30 Orienteering around Cheapside village (all welcome) More details in the next newsletter.

**27th May- 31st May** Whitsun holidays

**3rd June** Return to pre-school

**18th June –21st June** Royal Ascot. You are all invited to come for a picnic any day (Tuesday–Friday) at the village hall, then join us to see the royal procession.

**15th July** Parents evening

**July tbc.** Forest school trip 8.45-3.00 all children are invited.

**19th July** 12.30-3.00 Primary school leavers party

**19th July** End of term

**9th September** return to pre-school.