



Buckden Pre-School Playgroup

A place for Children to grow, to learn and to flourish

Registered Charity No. 291840

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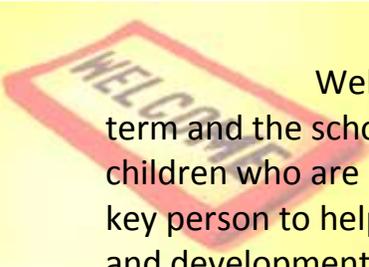
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Reflecting on Quality
committed to improvement

Newsletter – June 2014

Preschool roundup



Welcome to June's newsletter! We are inching ever closer to the end of term and the school leavers moving on to the next step on their education journey. All children who are leaving for school will have a summative assessment written by their key person to help the school understand where they are at currently in their learning and development, if you have any concerns regarding your child's transition to school please do come and let us know as it might be something we can help with.

Dates for your diary:

20th June – preschool trip to Hinchingsbrooke Country Park, please note preschool will be closed on this day even if your child is not attending the trip. If you would like your child to attend please can we have the money ASAP.

18th July – school leavers party and graduation – please note the preschool will be closed on this day for all other children, more information will be sent out soon.



A few reminders:

- Please ensure you are on time for dropping off and picking up your children. Late arrivals in the morning can be disruptive and mean that children miss out on registration and late pickups can cause distress as well as problems with the adult/child ratios.
- If your child is not going to be attending a session for any reason we would really appreciate a text or phone call to let us know.
- **Can you please ensure your fees are paid on time**, we are reliant on the fees to pay our overheads and so when fees are late we are then late paying.



Many thanks for your cooperation with these.



Wake and shake is going well and the majority of children seem to love it! We will be developing some new routines now we are up and running.....lots more fun to be had!



If your child is not leaving for school you should have received a form to let us know what sessions you would prefer in September, can you please ensure these are handed back in a timely way to avoid disappointment.

If your child has done something that has made them or you proud or perhaps they have achieved something new why not share it with us at preschool by filling in an achievement star. There are some copies in the green folder in reception or come in and ask a member of staff for some



Every child who attends the preschool has a key person who is responsible for their learning and development records. Every day we carry out observations on the children to see, for example what they are interested in and how they respond to different activities or situations.

These observations are then collated and used to track the children's learning and development against the criteria set out in the EYFS development matters. When your child turns 2 years 6 months their key person will write a summative assessment in line with their 2 year check which is a mandatory requirement in all early years' settings. Another summative assessment will be written shortly before they leave to go to school to help the school understand their learning needs but if they do not meet either of these criteria an interim report will be written giving an overview of their current stage of learning and development. Of course as a parent you may wish to know before these assessments are done how your child is doing at preschool and we would encourage you to make an appointment to come in to view their key working folder and have a chat with their key person. As a small setting we follow guidance set by Cambridgeshire County Council with regards to when to write summative assessments however we understand that you may feel you are not updated enough about your child's learning and development which is why we cannot stress enough how welcome you are to view your child's key working folder and discuss any concerns, achievements and future aims throughout the year.



We would like to say a very big thank you to Mr Dudley for hosting a plant sale on behalf of the preschool, he raised an amazing £316 and we are all incredibly grateful to him. We would also like to say thank you to everybody who has donated their Sainsbury's active kid's vouchers and to the local shop for putting a donation box out for us.

Committee Roundup

It's nearly the end of the school year and I as a parent of a pre-schooler will be very sad when Henry leaves Pre-School for the last time, especially as I have been part of the Pre-School for 3 years (Harry & Henry) ~ *end of an era!!!!* Myself and many of the committee will need to focus on school activities, thus the committee really does need your help!

Being on the committee with a bunch of friends has been brilliant, working together to organise brilliant functions like the Halloween party, our famous Christmas Fayre, Buckden Christmas lights, and the amazing Buckden May Ball!!! Planning for these events usually turn into a social occasion and often an excuse for a lovely glass of wine.

As mentioned in a previous letter the Pre-School cannot operate if it does not have enough committee members and will have to shut down. We are still looking for a Chairperson to take over my role, which after all of the hard work the committee and staff, in particular Michelle, has carried out over the last few months will be less time consuming. Parents/ carers helping with fundraising is so important as the Pre-School relies on this money to keep going. We also need a parent/ carer "staff liaison" person whom the staff can speak to if needed on a daily basis as I will no longer be at Pre-School dropping off Henry etc. General helpers are also important and new parent/ carers can bring in new ideas and fresh ways of doing things; being on the committee also gave me an insight into Pre-School and the setting that my children were at and I felt that I could contribute to this stage in their lives.

Please speak to myself (Corrine Emeleus) or a member of the committee/ staff for more information etc. The date for the next committee meeting will be displayed on the notice board soon, please come along and see what we do 😊