

Preschool 345 News

February 2016



Parents/carers, please feel free to chat with staff or committee members if you need any information or have a question. We will all be happy to help or to point you towards someone who can.

Risley Fashion House presents...

LADIES NIGHT FASHION SHOW & SALE in aid of Preschool 345

March 17th 2016

Our Lady of the Assumption RC Church Hall
Foster Ave, Beeston, NG9 1AE

Doors open 7.30pm
Show starts 8.00pm



Tickets £5,
includes a free
drink

See Tina for tickets

Cash and card
payments accepted

Mums, grans, childminders...

We hope that you will join us for our fund raising fashion sale (see left).

Quality end of line clothing, including many known brands, will be modelled for you (by some familiar faces!) Garments will then be available to buy on the night.

Ticket sales, and a percentage of clothing sales, will raise funds for our preschool.

Bring along as many friends and family as you can.

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers again this year. When you shop there, please say 'yes' to any vouchers offered and drop them in to Preschool 345. The scheme runs until July, after which we can use them to buy equipment which promotes a healthy lifestyle. Last year, we were able to purchase £140 worth of fruit and vegetables for our daily snack. Maybe you can persuade your family and friends to donate their vouchers too...



SOME DIARY DATES



END OF THIS HALF TERM - Friday 12th February 2016
FIRST DAY OF NEXT HALF TERM – Monday 22nd February 2016

EASTER WEEKEND – Preschool closed Good Friday 25th March, Easter Monday 28th March & INSET Tuesday 29th March 2016

INSET DAYS – Tuesday 29th March & Tuesday 3rd May 2016

FORTNIGHT 'EASTER' HOLIDAY – last day of the Spring term is Friday 1st April, first day of the Summer term is Monday 18th April 2016

A plea to all our fabulous young artists!

We are in the process of up-dating our website. We would love to include some drawings created by the children.

We need pictures of life at Preschool 345 (toys, friends, favourite activities etc.) and also portraits of the ladies for a section about our wonderful staff (please label any staff pictures just to be sure that we recognise them!)



Thanks!



SNACK ROTA

WOW!!! After much begging and a little bit of arm-twisting, several parents and carers have taken a turn helping out at snack time. For a couple of weeks, it was difficult to find a space on the rota because we had so many volunteers! Thank you so much to everyone who got involved.

Please don't rest easy – volunteer again. We would love to see you every term, month or even weekly if you are feeling very saintly. 😊

Spread the word amongst other parents/carers – let them know how simple a task it really is, how helpful Angela is in guiding you through what to do and how lovely it is to have a nosey through the hatch to see what the children are up to in our wonderful preschool.

PLEASE see Angela or any member of staff if you could lend a hand.



Extra session possible...

If we have sufficient demand, we will be offering an extra afternoon session on Tuesdays, beginning after Easter. Please see Tina if you would be interested in having your child attend Preschool 345s on Tuesday afternoons.

If these new sessions run, our planned Tuesday pm visits to the Wild Area at Round Hill School might then have to take place on Fridays instead - this will be confirmed nearer the time to parents/carers of any children involved.



NURSERY EDUCATION FUNDING

Currently, all 3 & 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free childcare per week. In the last few days, the Childcare Minister announced that eight local authorities have been allocated £13 million to provide 30 hours free childcare a week for working families from September this year. This pilot scheme will be a year ahead of planned nationwide implementation in September 2017.

In addition to the eight pilot areas, a further 25 areas have been selected as 'Early Innovators' - £4 million has been allocated to these areas in order that they can explore potential issues surrounding an increase to 30 hours. Nottinghamshire is one of the Early Innovator areas. As we learn more about what this will mean for future provision as Preschool 345, we will try to keep you updated.

Preschool 345 has a Facebook page...

<https://m.facebook.com/preschool345beeston>



HERE ARE TWO WAYS YOU COULD HELP TO RAISE VALUABLE FUNDS FOR PRESCHOOL 345, A NONPROFIT CHARITY...



Do your online shopping via thegivingmachine.co.uk - Amazon, John Lewis, Sainsbury's, Tesco, Next and 300+ more online retailers to choose from. Every purchase helps to support us. The site is easy to use. Once you are on it, register as a new user and you can then install the Shop and Give reminder on your computer. Once installed, it tells you every time you are on a site that gives some of its profits to Preschool. By clicking on the reminder, any shopping you do will generate a donation for Preschool. Easy and much appreciated!



Take part in a sponsored event (bike rides, marathons, fun runs etc.) and name us as your chosen charity. Let us know and we will help you to spread the word and gain sponsors.

All our fund-raising efforts buy resources which enhance and extend the children's experiences and learning.

TATTY TED'S ADVENTURES

– Catherine's bit



An appeal...

Each newsletter we like to share stories of Tatty Ted's adventures.

It seems this term, however, that Tatty is having an adventure of epic proportions as he has gone on his travels and has forgotten to come back!

He hasn't sent us a postcard from any warm and sunny lands, so we're confident he hasn't lost his passport. We believe he is, hopefully, still in the Beeston/Chilwell area.

We're hoping you will all have a look behind your sofas, amongst all the teddies and cuddly toys in your homes and in the boots of cars to see if Tatty is hibernating somewhere - he does have a habit of falling asleep in the middle of a game of hide and seek!

He's small, brown and furry, gives great hugs and answers to the name of Tatty, so if you manage to find him please return him to preschool.

Many thanks.

Lindsey's behaviour bit - If you have any concerns about behaviour please speak to your child's key person or Lindsey, who is our very own behaviour support lead.

Language tips

Mandy is our very own Language Leader. She regularly attends networking events and courses so she can keep up to date with the latest research and ideas to help develop your child's language skills. If you have any worries or questions please feel free to speak to her or your child's key person.



Being able to communicate is not just about talking. Along with getting your *own* message across, being able to listen, pay attention, interact, play and understand what's being said are the fundamental building blocks of communication.

We communicate and interact with each other in different ways - we need to learn when to talk, when to listen and how to take turns in conversation. Children learn from adults by watching how they interact with other adults and with children.

If your child wants your attention while you are talking to someone else ask them to wait a moment until you have finished. Don't let them wait too long (less than 30 seconds), then give them eye contact, thank them for waiting and look at your child while they talk to you, showing you are interested in what they have to say. When you ask your child something that requires a response give them at least 10 seconds to take in the information to be able to answer you before rephrasing what you've said.

When we listen to children, they learn what to do to be good listeners.

Mandy x

Saying, "No don't do that!" shouldn't be the end of an interaction with your child.

Obviously, if your child is about to do something dangerous then it's fine to shout out to shock them into stopping - no one wants their child to be walking out into the road for example. But then you need to explain about the dangers (and you will probably need to explain lots of times, not just the once). Go on to show them where it *is* safe to cross and how to cross safely e.g. holding your hand.

As another example, if your child likes to throw things, "No don't throw that!" needs to be said to prevent a glass vase hitting a sibling! But then show your child some things they *can* safely throw e.g. soft balls, bean bags, and where they may throw them e.g. up and down steps, outside etc.

In this way, they will come to realise what they *can* do, instead of only knowing what they can't and often ignoring it.





NEWSLETTER NEWS 😊

Our newsletter is published once every half term and you should have been receiving a paper and email version during the last week of each half term.

This edition is to be our last printed newsletter. In an effort to save resources, **future newsletters will be sent to you by email only**. A paper copy will be available for reference on the parents table. Parents/carers who do not have an email address may request a paper copy - please speak to Tina.

Please make sure that Preschool 345 has your current email address and that you notify us of any changes to this or other contact details. Up-to-date mobile numbers are important as we will occasionally use them to text information out to you.

PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILD'S COAT !!!

When the children are faced with 30 coats, many of them really do not know which is theirs and it is very hard for the staff to work it out too.



Thanks.

Richard's Recipe Corner

Valentines Stained Glass Window Biscuits

Hello and welcome to recipe corner.

This issue's recipe is for heart-shaped biscuits with shiny red middles, perfect for Valentine's Day. You could easily change the shape of the biscuits and the colour of the sweets to make other versions throughout the year, maybe stars with yellow middles or just simple multi-coloured round biscuits. Have fun!

INGREDIENTS (makes approximately 20)

150g butter
60g caster sugar
60g soft dark brown sugar
60g golden syrup
360g plain flour
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 ½ tsp ground ginger
1 ½ tsp ground cinnamon
Red boiled sweets



METHOD:

- Preheat the oven to around 180°C. Line a baking tray with greaseproof paper.
- Melt the butter, sugars and syrup together.
- Sieve the flour, bicarbonate of soda and spices into a big bowl. Add the melted mixture and stir.
- Knead it together, add a bit of water if needed – the dough should be soft but not too sticky. Form it into a ball, squash it down so that it's about 2cm thick, wrap in cling film and chill for 30 mins.
- On a floury surface, roll the dough out until it's a ½ cm thick. Use a heart-shaped cutter to cut out biscuits.
- Put them on a baking tray and cut a small piece of dough out of the centre of each biscuit – use a tiny cutter or a small knife. Each biscuit should now have a hole. Put a boiled sweet in each hole.
- Bake for 10-12 mins until golden. Take out of oven and leave to cool on the tray. The boiled sweets will have melted, forming a coloured glass centre in each biscuit.