

Preschool 345 News October 2015







• Our newsletter is published once every half term

INSET DAY - 3rd May 2016

- You should receive a paper copy and an email version during the last week of each half term
- Spare copies are also made available on the parent/carer information table

PRESCHOOL 345 COMMITTEE

Preschool 345 has charitable status. It is managed and run each day by our experienced staff team. A committee of volunteer parents/carers supports their work and makes key decisions.

Look out for a welcome letter from our co-chairs, Cath and Rich, coming soon. It will outline who the existing committee members are and how you can get involved should you wish to do so.

Our Annual General Meeting is on Friday 4th December at 10am – please do come along.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Preschool 345's Christmas Fair will take place on **Saturday 12th December** at 11am. The fair raises vital funds for Preschool and is a great community event. There will be stalls, games and crafts as well as excellent food and drink on offer. Santa has also promised to make an appearance...

We will need volunteers to help make the day a success so please help if you can – maybe by donating items, giving some time on the day or baking for the cake stall. Make sure to bring along as many family and friends as you can gather! The fair begins with festive songs sung by all the children so bring them along bright and early in time to perform.

Look out for further information soon for ways to get involved.



TATTY TED'S ADVENTURES

– Catherine's bit

Tatty Ted is our resident bear who likes to visit children at home. He may well come home with your child one day, along with his diary. Together with your child, you can record his adventures by writing, drawing, sticking in photographs etc.

He's still away on his travels at the moment so we'll hear from him soon.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Tuesday 8th December, we will be holding a Christmas party. All children will be invited, including those who do not usually attend Preschool on Tuesdays. More detail soon...

Children in Need

We will be holding a Teddy Bears Picnic on Friday 13th November to raise funds for Children in Need – details to follow.

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.

Environmental behaviour

Sometimes it can feel as though all we are saying to our children are things along the lines of "Don't do that! Come here! What are you doing? Argh!"

Try to narrow down exactly **what** your child is doing and **when** and **why** you find it so difficult. Concentrate on **where** the unwanted behaviour happens - is it always during a trip to the supermarket? Then think in what ways the experience could be altered to allow your child to behave as you want them to. Sometimes breaking it down into more manageable pieces makes it easier to deal with the 'whole thing'.

Some strategies for shopping might include...

- Getting them to help write a shopping list using squiggles, letters, drawings, pictures cut and glued from magazines
- Giving them small jobs to do whilst there e.g. looking for things, picking things from the shelf, ticking items off their list
- Praising them when they are behaving as you want them too

...although there *might* still be times when you are letting your little one have a scream or two in the middle of an aisle whilst you are pretending/wishing to be somewhere else ©

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.



There are lots of things you can do to encourage and support your child's communication, speech and language...

For younger children - adding words to your child's sentences can show them how words fit together e.g. if your child says "dolly hair" you can say "brush dolly's hair". Tell them stories and sing songs more than once. Repetition helps children understand and remember words.

For older children - join in your child's pretend play, letting them take the lead. Reversing roles can be great fun, let them be mummy or daddy. This helps them talk about new situations and helps their language and creativity. Try to comment on what they are saying and doing rather than asking lots of questions. Give them time to answer any questions, at least 10 seconds. This not only reinforces their language skills but also shows them that you are interested and listening to them.

Have fun with sounds and language!

Mandy x





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

Do your online shopping via <u>thegivingmachine.co.uk</u> - 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.

Harvest Festival

To mark Autumn and harvest time, we would like to collect food parcels to give to the local food bank. This is a great way of helping our children to understand that not everyone is as fortunate as them and how we can help others.

Please bring in any donations of tinned or dried food during the week commencing Monday 2nd November.

Thank you.

SNACK TIME...

Snack duty is a lovely way to join in with Preschool 345 if you have an hour to spare now and then.

Each day, a parent or carer volunteers to wash, chop and serve a healthy snack to the children. Our friendly staff will show you exactly what to do and your help will free them up to work with the children. The sign-up rota is on the information table. Maybe you could consider helping once each half term – or more frequently if you wish! Or volunteer Granny...





NEXT ISSUE OF OUR NEWSLETTER...

- Staff profile learn more about one of our lovely ladies
- Rich's Recipe Corner returns