

# Preschool 345 Newsletter May 2017



Welcome to all our new starters this term.  
We hope everyone is settling in well.

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.

## Summer Fair – 1<sup>st</sup> July

Our annual summer fair is fast-approaching. Please put the date in your diary and come along for a fun community event which raises vital additional funds for our preschool.  
Bring family and friends to enjoy stalls, games, crafts, food and music!

There are lots of ways to get involved -

- Volunteer to help – Help set up, run a stall or clear away at the end
- Have a clear out at home and send good quality toys and books to be sold at the fair
  - Bake something for our cake stall
  - Buy some raffle tickets
- Donate a raffle prize - Do you have a skill you'd be willing to offer/do you know someone who could offer a prize for the raffle?
- Fill a couple of plastic cups with small toys & treats for our popular 'Lucky Cups' stall

Further details will be sent out soon!  
Also look out for sign up sheets appearing on the information table.

### Sun screen

Please remember to put sun cream on your child before they attend Preschool during the summer term.



For children who attend for more than 4 hours, sun cream will be reapplied after lunchtime prior to outdoor play, either from a communal bottle or from a bottle supplied by their parents.

### SOME DIARY DATES

**BANK HOLIDAY – Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**THIS HALF TERM FINISHES – Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> May**

**NEXT HALF TERM STARTS – Mon 5<sup>th</sup> June**

**LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM – Tues 25<sup>th</sup> July**

**INSET DAY – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

*We are aiming to arrange a meet up on this inset day – keep an eye on your emails for details!*



## Going To School!

All of you should now be aware of where your child will be going to school if they are starting in September. Is your child ready for school? Here are just a few questions to ask yourself.



Is/Has your child -

- able to separate from you with confidence – are they happy for you to leave them at their current setting?
- mostly independent in when going to the toilet including washing their hands and wiping their bottom?
- able to put their coat on and attempt to fasten it?
- able to dress and undress themselves? Putting on socks and shoes. Taking a jumper on and off including pulling sleeves out again if it becomes inside out?
- beginning to use a knife, fork, spoon and a cup and are they willing to try new foods?
- able to sing or say familiar nursery rhymes?
- able to follow simple instructions given by an adult when accompanied by their name?
- had opportunity to use a variety of pens and pencils to make marks and write some letters from their name?
- able to recognise their own name when they see it written down in a variety of places e.g. in a birthday card, at nursery?
- able to listen to a story, remember key events that happen in the story and talk about the pictures?
- taken an interest in counting and numbers in the environment?
- beginning to follow and understand simple routines?
- confident to have a go at new activities?
- able to turn-take and share when playing with other children and during simple board games?
- able to use scissors safely and attempt to snip paper?
- able to recognise their own belongings e.g. own coat, shoes, book bag and can they collect these things to take home from school at the end of the day by themselves?

### What happens now.

Over the next few weeks your child's key person will be sharing with you a short report and assessment of where your child is within the ages and stages of the Early Years Foundation Stage, this report will be shared with your child's new school. Your child's new school will also be visiting us here at 345 so we can share any relevant information that will help your child's transition be a happy one.

- Our newsletter is published once every half term
- You should receive an email version once every half term
- Some paper copies are also made available on the parent/carer information table



### **Mandy's Bit.**

Children learn speech sounds through listening to them and are great little mimics. Spring is here so why not take a 'listening walk' in the park or sit quietly in your garden and listen to the sounds. It's fun then to mimic the noises you hear and maybe talk about what might be making those noises. Making different sounds develops the muscles in their mouths to make different speech sounds more clearly.

For younger children using mainly one word if they say 'motorbike' to a loud noise they hear you could add 'noisy motorbike' giving them more language.

Playing with sounds is fun!

Mandy xx

Please donate your Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers to Preschool by 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Last year we got enough to get a £105 voucher which paid for a lot of snacks!



**From September 2017, the fee per session will be increasing to £10.20.**

If you have any queries about this, please speak to Tina, Trudi or a committee member.

Congratulations to Angela who has completed her level 3 qualification! The assessor said "she is outstanding".

### **Shoe collection**

We collected 101 pairs of shoes in our shoe collection for the charity Sal's Shoes.

A big thank you to all who dug out their preloved shoes – they are on their way to new owners around the world!



### **A note from Tina – New routine**

From 18th April we have been trying out a new end of day and lunch time routine. Can you please come to the main door at pick up please (the door you use to drop off in the morning). Why are we trying out this new routine?

We find children are having to wait in the kitchen, after story time, an unacceptable amount of time before they can start their lunch. This new routine will allow the children freedom to continue to play until all children have either left after the morning session, or have arrived for the afternoon session.

### **Late Pickups**

I would like to remind parents the end of the morning session is 12:00 and afternoon session is 3:00. Although we recognise sometimes parents/carers maybe late due to unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances we have noticed a trend for some families to regularly arrive late, which has meant children having to wait even longer for their lunch. We will be making a charge of £5, in line with our terms and conditions, for regular late pickups.

### **Flexible sessions.**

Many of our families have been booking children into preschool for the occasional 'one off' session, we have managed to include up to two flexible sessions per session, which will be available on a first come first serve basis.

## Tatty Ted's adventures!



Tatty headed off on his travels last term and had a lovely time going home with the children, meeting their families and seeing all the fun things they get up to outside of Preschool.

While visiting Betty and Eli he discovered a super book by Julia Donaldson called The Everywhere Bear. The bear in the book goes on many adventures and it reminded Tatty of himself. Tatty loved it so much he used his furry little paws to tap an order out on the internet to order some copies for all the children to enjoy.

During Easter two of Tatty's furry relatives came to visit him in Beeston. They liked Preschool and asked Tatty if they could stay. Tatty said they could, so the bears will be out and about visiting the children with copies of the Everywhere Bear for the children to enjoy at home.

Meantime Tatty has been enjoying himself so much he's not returned to Preschool yet, so if anyone sees the little brown bundle of fur can they please remind him that term has started again and we'd all love to see him.

Can you please inform Preschool in writing, if you are aware you will not be at home or in your usual place of work, or not contactable on your usual number. In this circumstance please provide an alternative contact number.

Also please inform Preschool of any change of address or telephone number.



A huge thank you to everyone who came to the fashion show on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

A special thanks goes to the fabulous models and raffle prize contributors!  
We raised a fantastic £377 for Preschool!

## Recipe corner – Simple (but delicious!) Scones

### Ingredients

450g Self raising flour  
115g hard margarine  
75g caster sugar  
280ml semi skimmed or whole milk  
Raisins/cherries (optional)

***This is a quick and easy recipe –  
kids will love getting their  
hands  
into the mixture. Just make sure  
to follow basic hygiene routines  
to keep everyone safe.***

### Method

1. Preheat oven to 200C (fan oven). Put greaseproof paper on a couple of baking trays.
2. Rub flour and margarine together in a large bowl until like breadcrumbs.
3. Stir in the caster sugar.
4. Make a well in the middle and add just under the full amount of milk
5. Mix with a large spoon
6. Turn onto a well - floured surface
7. Knead a little (not too much!) and divide as required.
8. Add raisins/cherries if desired.
9. Roll out (gently) to about 2.5cm thick and use a cutter to cut out.
10. Put onto prepared baking trays and brush the top with milk.
11. Put into preheated oven and bake for 10-11 minutes.
12. Let them cool a little before moving to a cooling rack
13. Enjoy!

