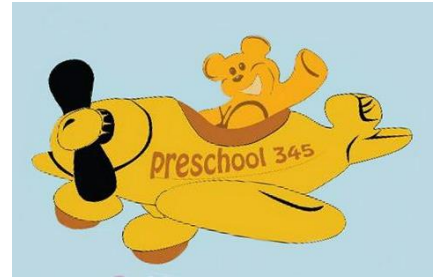


Preschool 345 Newsletter July 2017



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.

It's that time of the year where we say farewell to some of the children as they move on.

So, good bye to Joel, Findley, Lulu, Thomas Richmond, Ewan, Lawrence, Elsa, Noah, Jude, Gregory, Charlie, Alfie, Sofia, Fraser, Skye, Alex, Henry, Anastasia, Jack Skey, Joshua, Lily, Stefanos, Alex, Jack Anderson, En, Yi Yi, Archie and Suban.

We wish you all the best for the future!



Goodbye!

Some of our committee members are retiring from our committee this term. A big thank you to Clare, Karen and Jen for all their commitment, time and effort over the years. We hope you have enjoyed all the fun times!

If you would like to get involved with the work of the committee, you would be very welcome - speak to any of the existing members (photos are on display in the foyer) or e-mail Cath on agius89@btinternet.com

We simply cannot exist without our wonderful committee!

Summer fair cancelled

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances it has been necessary to cancel the summer fair this year.

There will be an alternative event on 30th September which we hope you'll be able to make – please see details below!

SOME DIARY DATES

LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM – Tue 25th July

START OF AUTUMN TERM – Wed 6th Sept

FAMILY EVENT – Sat 30th Sept

PRESCHOOL AGM – Fri 24th Nov

CHRISTMAS FAIR – Sat 9th Dec



- Our newsletter is published once every half term
- You should receive an email with a link during each half term
- Paper copies are also made available on the parent/carer information table





Summer Family Event Saturday 30th September – Coffee and Cake and Fun things to do!



Previously we have held an activity morning during the week once a term. This has historically been the opportunity for parents to come into preschool and take part in activities while at the same time having an opportunity to catch up with their child's keyperson. Over the last 12 months these events have not been successful, mainly because more and more parents are working. We are therefore offering a similar event on a Saturday along with our committee who will be taking care of the coffee and cakes. This will be a fun and informal get together when all will be welcome, new and old families.

More details to follow early September.



Lindsey's behaviour bit.

Positive reinforcement strategies to help promote 'good' behaviour.

B.F. Skinner (1938) coined the term 'operant conditioning'; it means roughly changing of behaviour by the use of reinforcement which is given after the desired response. Reinforcers are responses from the environment that increase the probability of a behaviour being repeated.

Here at Preschool we have our **6 Promises** and leaves on the tree that act as reinforcers.

- Walking inside, so we don't run into furniture, doors, other people, or trip over toys.
- Using our quiet voices inside and our loud voices outside, if we want to, so it doesn't become too noisy indoors.
- Using the toilets properly: we don't play with toys in there and we always remember to wash our hands after using the toilet.
- Using the scissors correctly: sitting down at a table so we don't hurt ourselves, or others.
- We take turns and share the toys so everyone is happy.
- We keep our hands and feet to ourselves so no-one gets hurt

When we see children keeping to our promises they are given a leaf for the tree, we also encourage the children to notice when others deserve a leaf.

It's also a very positive way of reminding children to behave in the desired way by gently reminding them when they, for instance, run inside' "oh did you forget our promise to walk inside?" This usually works a treat.

The Learning Journey – What is it all about?

Your child's Learning Journey is a collection of observations, photos, art-work, mark-making etc. that provide a picture of your child's development under the Prime and Specific areas of learning, identified in the Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S.).

Your child's Key Person matches this information to the E.Y.F.S. with the aim of building a unique picture of your child. This is then used to pinpoint next steps and plan relevant and motivating learning experiences.

Each term you will be offered the opportunity to take the Learning Journey home, (please remember to bring it back!) however you are more than welcome to look at it at any time, just ask your child's key person. Recently one of our Dads said the learning journey was his "No 1 most favourite thing about Preschool, it makes for a cracking evening with a good read".

Tatty Ted Adventures



We now have three Tatty Teds so more children can join in with Ted's Adventures, however one Ted is lost. Have you seen Ted? Is he lurking under your bed?!!

We would really like to have Ted back at Preschool.

Tatty has had a lovely time over the past few weeks staying with many of the children from Preschool and enjoying time with their families.

At Alec's house he found the perfect way to keep cool! He had a water fight! When Alec had a friend come to visit they played in his paddling pool and squirted each other with a huge water gun. Tatty liked squirting the others more than being squirted but had a great time.

When Joshua looked after Tatty they went camping with Joshua's daddy and Grandpa. They went to a fantastic place called Rutland Water. Tatty said he loved sleeping in a tent and would definitely like to go again.

Tatty also had lots of new experiences while staying with Fraser. They went dancing together, went swimming and played crazy golf! Tatty said he was exhausted after all the exercise but had really enjoyed himself.

Tatty wants to say a big 'goodbye and good luck' to all the children who will be leaving us at the end of term. He says it has been lovely to get to know everyone and knows you will all be fabulous and have a great time at your new nurseries and schools!

Language tips

I've always said that children are great little mimics, these last few weeks I've heard and seen our older children use our strategies to help their younger friends become confident talkers so here is another one:

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.

Use comments and prompts to help keep conversations going and keeping children involved, they're better than too many questions, eg. if your child is eating an ice-cream comment 'mmm that looks nice I like ice-cream my favourite is chocolate'. When you do ask questions giving children a choice of what they want helps them use more language than 'yes' or 'no', eg. would you like apple or banana?

Please remember children need more time than adults to think about what they have heard and decide what to say back. Give them at least 10 seconds to respond and look at them while you wait it shows you're interested in what they have to say.

As always have fun!

Mandy x

Do you know about the Tax Free Childcare and 30 Hours Extended Funding?

The government is introducing new ways to help parents with childcare costs. Whether you have toddlers or teens, you could get support. Look through all the help on offer with this easy to use website <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Flexible Child Care

As you may be aware Preschool 345 has its challenges in offering flexible childcare, however we have now linked up with Church House Nursery who can help us offer extended hours and holiday care. Please speak to Tina or Trudi for more details.

Recipe Corner....

Iced lemon squares

This recipe is very easy, and the results are very yummy!

Ingredients

200g Rich tea biscuits

110g butter

1 lemon, rind and juice

85g dessicated coconut

Half a tin of condensed milk (approximately 7oz/200g)

100-200g icing sugar



1. Grease and line a square tin (approx. length 23cm)
2. Crush the biscuits, using whatever method you desire. I normally put the biscuits in a plastic bowl and use a rolling pin - children love helping with this! Add the coconut and the grated rind of the lemon.
3. Place the butter and condensed milk in a small saucepan and heat gently until the butter has melted. Add to the dry ingredients and mix well.
4. Place in the prepared tin and leave to set in the fridge (approx. 1-2hours).
5. When the base has set, cover with lemon icing - using lemon juice in place of water. (I use approximately 2 tbsp of lemon juice blended with 125g of icing sugar to make a thick paste – adjust according to thickness desired)
6. Once the icing has set a little, cut into squares. Enjoy!