



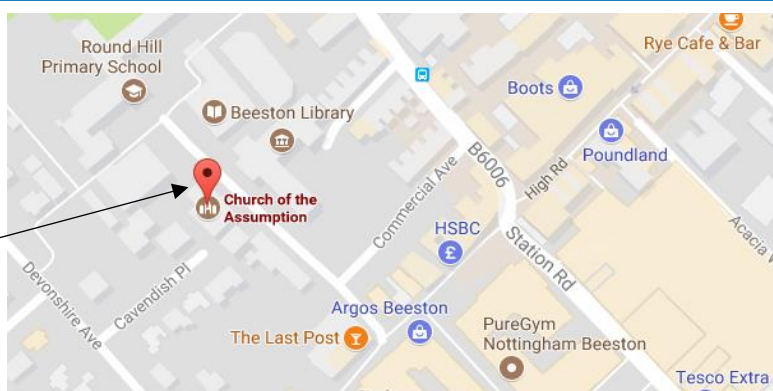
# Preschool 345 Newsletter December 2017



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.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Saturday 9th<sup>th</sup> December**  
**11am – 12.30pm**  
**Church of the Assumption Hall,**  
**Foster Ave, Beeston**  
(opposite Beeston library).



This is a great community event but also raises funds for Preschool. Preschool 345 is a not for profit community organization and the funds raised through this and other events throughout the year are spent on resources and equipment for the children to enjoy.

We will also be **collecting donations** for a local charity called **Operation Orphan** – see the details below.

The fair begins with **festive songs sung by the children** so bring them along bright and early in time to perform just after 11!

There will be **stalls, games and crafts** as well as **food and drink** on offer. **Santa** has also promised to make an appearance...



Make sure to bring along as many **family and friends** as you can gather!

We will need **volunteers** to help make the day a success so please help if you can – there are many ways you can help: **donating items** for the raffle or good quality toys for the toy stall, giving some time **on the day** to help, or **baking** for the cake stall.

There is a **sign-up sheet** in the foyer of Preschool – please do sign up if you can!



Dates for your diary -

**Christmas Party!**  
**Weds 20<sup>th</sup> December**  
(9.45-12.00)



All the children who attend preschool will be invited to come to this free event and get in the festive spirit with our special guest Jeffrey Jumper!  
Look out for your invitation which should be with you soon.

**Last day of term - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

### **Extended hours and partnership with Church House Nursery**

Extended hours of 8.30am – 3.30pm are now offered at preschool.

There are also ad hoc sessions available on a first come first serve basis each day at preschool. We also have an arrangement with Church House Nursery to provide childcare outside of the preschool day.

Speak to Tina if you would like more information or have any questions/queries.

**A note from Tina** – It is with sadness I have to report that Lindsey will be leaving us at the end of the term, she has so many family commitments that, in Lindsey's words "something had to give" and obviously family comes first. However all is not lost Lindsey has kindly offered to provide us with supply cover, so we will be seeing her around.

Lindsey has been with us 9 years, she has had a massive impact on our practice over the years, being both reflective and pro-active in making changes happen. She has been a great support to myself, often reminding me of things I need to do, a bit like my PA, I have no idea who is going to remind me now, I might have to use a calendar or something! I also know she has been a massive support to her fellow practitioners, giving words of advice and sharing her wisdom. It's also the little things she does like, bake banana cake and send the odd text to nudge us or ask how we are. We will miss having her around on a weekly basis but of course we wish Lindsey and her family well.

### **Collection for Operation Orphan 'Keep a Child Warm' project**

At the Christmas Fair we will be collecting donations for the above project which supports children living in Eastern Europe (and beyond) where they face harsh winter conditions. If you feel able to give then please do and help spread the Christmas love!

The goal is to provide as many children as possible with adequate clothing and relevant support to withstand and survive the low temperatures. More information can be found on the charity website <http://www.operation-orphan.org/projects/europe/eastern-central-europe/>

The children supported are generally over the age of 3 and up to 19/20 so they can take sizes 2-3yrs+ and up to small adult. The items should be GOOD QUALITY and items need are:

- Warm winter coats
- Thick jumpers
- Thick cosy trousers
- Thick socks
- Hats, scarves, gloves and blankets (the blankets need to be around 6x4ft in size as this is the most versatile and they like to be able to make sure each child receives a similar sized blanket).

### **Remembrance Day**

The children have been busy, working together to make a poppy wreath to place at the memorial cross.

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November we took all the children over to the memorial cross to lay our poppy wreath where we all stood very quietly while we thought about all the people we love and all the people who have died.



## Behaviour Advice

December can be a very exciting time with so many different activities and events happening. Even if you don't celebrate Christmas the shops are decorated, more treats on sale everything is lit up. Children can be very excited even if they don't entirely know why!

With extra fun there can also be extra excitement and then extra tiredness, (from the children as well as the grownups)

Sometimes it is good to keep to a routine of some sorts whilst also being 'busy' with Christmas.

Here are a few Christmas type activities to keep your little ones entertained and occupied during December which also link to the Early Years Foundation Stage. Although there could be some mess later to clear up but obviously little ones are good at tidying up. 😊

Making Christmas cards, drawing pictures and writing their name.

Exploring and using media and materials: understands that they can use lines to enclose a space and use these shapes to represent objects.

Writing: writes own name.

Cutting out pictures from a catalogue and gluing them onto a piece of paper to make a Christmas list of what they would like or what they would like to buy for other people.

Moving and handling: uses tools safely and appropriately.

Baking which includes lots of mathematics and is, hopefully, also good to eat.

Shape, space and measure: orders items by weight

People and communities: Enjoys joining in with family custom and routines

Whatever you are doing throughout December have a lovely time and get lots of sleep.

### Tatty Ted

We all know that Tatty Ted loves adventures and this term the children at Preschool have shared some great days out with him.

This term he has traveled far and wide. Firstly he headed to Cambridge to meet Charlie's Nan and meet her woofy puppy. Tatty told us it was very nice to meet a new furry friend.

Next he went to Calke Abbey with Eddie to experience Apple Day. Eddie also took him on the tram into Nottingham to see Stick Man at the theatre.

Tatty enjoyed lots of outdoor fun too. He went to Markeaton Park with Amelia and had lots of fun on the slide.

Tilly took Tatty swimming, to her tennis lesson, to Notts Tots and to a firework display. Tatty said he loved the bright colours of the fireworks exploding in the sky.

After an energetic few days he enjoyed cuddling up with MJ. They baked cakes and went to stay at MJ's nana's house. Tatty loves meeting the children's family members.

He met Angel's big brother too and went to a funfair. Tatty wasn't big enough to go on any rides but Angel kept Tatty safe and treated him to a trip to a Jamaican restaurant! Tatty said the food was very yummy.

Finally, he went to Gulliver's Kingdom with Ava and had a great day. Tatty said one of the days Ava shared some sweets with him. He remembered to brush his teeth though and when Ava took him to the dentist he didn't need to have any fillings.

Over the next few weeks Tatty will be helping the children learn lots of Christmas songs and will be looking forward to putting up Preschool's Christmas decorations.



## Mandy's language bit - Reading books

Throughout your child's early years they are learning critical language and communication skills, by listening to stories your child is reinforcing the basic sounds that form language and also the rhythm of language.

'Pretend reading' when your child pages through a book babbling and talking about the pictures is a very important pre-literacy activity.

"Read it again"

Some children love to look at and listen to the same book over and over again, the repetition and familiarity helps your child learn new words and remember important words and sentences, they will soon be 'Pretend reading' you the story.

Have fun  
Mandy x

The Giving Machine -  
[thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://thegivingmachine.co.uk)



If you do online shopping you can help raise funds for Preschool at no extra cost to you!

Amazon, John Lewis, Sainsbury's, Tesco, Next and 300+ more online retailers are signed up.

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.  
Thank you!

Thanks to everyone who came to the AGM on 24<sup>th</sup> November.

If you weren't able to make it to the AGM but would like to find out more about becoming more involved in fundraising/the committee please ask a current committee member (details in the foyer) or speak to Tina.

## Potential future family and fundraising events...

Quiz Night

Easter egg hunt

Park toddle

Summer Fair

**Look out for details in the coming months!**

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





We asked the ladies at preschool what their favourite Christmas traditions are – here are their answers...



Nicola -  
Going to parties.

Helen  
Spending time with  
my family playing  
with our new presents  
and eating lots of  
food.

Catherine -  
My favourite thing to do is  
watch my family 'creep  
downstairs' to see if Santa  
has been and then watch  
our dog dive around in all  
the discarded Christmas  
wrapping paper.

Mandy -  
Getting up early for a crisp  
walk to wake me up then  
recently having Christmas  
dinner cooked for me by  
my wonderful daughter

**Angela -  
"I love pulling the  
Christmas crackers,  
especially when they  
go BANG !"**

Lindsey  
My favourite thing about  
Christmas is getting up  
REALLY early! But to get up  
really early I also have to go to  
bed really early on Christmas  
Eve.

Marie -  
"I sneak into my Harry and Amelia's  
bedroom as early as I can get away with  
(without my hubby getting cross with  
me) to wake my children to see what  
Santa has brought us all. Well I say "us  
all" I really mean me! Ha!"

Trudi -  
I know this is before Christmas, but I love decorating  
the tree. Everything goes on it. All the different  
coloured baubles, lots of tinsel and a sparkly star on  
top.

Tina -  
I just love to have all my family  
visit, they all come to my house  
in the morning and we sit and  
eat chocolate and nuts and  
have a right good old chit chat.

Rachel  
Best thing about Xmas....  
Sherry with breakfast!  
But another favourite is  
watching Dr Who with the  
kids and my grown up  
nephews.