



All Friends Together

Great Tew Pre-School
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Newsletter February 2012

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful term we have to look forward to! We are looking at people who help us and have a few visits planned which we trust will be a huge success. As you are aware we have a new role play area to explore and expand on in the outdoor area - we are still looking for any parents that think they would like to be involved in this for a session.

Welcome

Welcome to Baby Freya who arrived on Saturday 21st January, she is a welcome addition to the Rees household (congratulations Kerry and Nick) and has a fantastic big sister in Tilly. For all those that had a guess at the date, sex and weight; you will be pleased to know that the money we raised from that was enough to buy the children a digital camera for them to take their own photographs. We also managed to buy three toy ponies which the children have enjoyed making jumps for and are really having fun with. The photos the children have taken are rather good and we have already used some of those to make a new number game - well done children!

Sorry

As you are all aware I am currently undergoing some learning myself, one of the things I have read about recently is that making children say sorry when they have hurt or upset someone is not always the 'best choice'. For this reason we are changing the way we deal with negative behaviour and will be asking the child who has been upset what he/she thinks the other child could do to make him/her feel better. We did trial this at the end of last term. "Get me a tissue", "Give me a cuddle", "Let me

have a turn" and indeed "Say sorry", were all suggestions put forward by the children. If you have any questions or comments about this please do not hesitate to share them with a member of staff, committee or add them to the comments book or board in the cloakroom area.

Friendship tokens

We now have some printed tokens that we fill in when children are particularly kind (over and above the normal kinship they show to one another). These tokens are placed into a special box which the children have designed and given out at the end of sessions. This is to make the children feel good about themselves and also helps us to inform you of such acts of kindness. They are not given out on a daily basis, so please don't worry if your child does not bring one home for a while.

Phonics

The children are working really well on their letter sounds and really seem to be enjoying the work we are doing with them. We are even managing to sound out some simple words from the sounds that we have worked on so far - they are making fantastic progress and you should be really proud of them! Well done little people.

Mini movers

After the Easter break we will be running our 'Mini Movers' session again. This is a Wednesday afternoon session especially tailored to the needs of the children that will be moving onto a reception class in September. We use this time to practice skills that will be beneficial to a smooth transition to reception class; we do more phonics work and start dressing and undressing for more formal P.E sessions. This has been a very popular group in the past and we trust that this year will be just as popular. If your child will require a place could you please let me know as soon as possible.

Quality Farm Animals

The children are really enjoying farms and tractors this year, we do however have a poor quality of farm animals and our tractors have all seen better days. We intend to buy new where possible and have already started by purchasing three new ponies which are much loved. Can we please ask that if any parents see good quality second hand items you think we might benefit from, please can you let us know? - they are very expensive new!

Bags for Schools

Very soon we will be giving you all bags to fill and return to us with old shoes, bags, clothes, coats and soft toys in them. These will then be taken away and we will

receive money for the weight of the bags taken. Further details will follow, but please start thinking about this and putting items to one side.

September places

For those parents who have children that will continue with us in September, could I please ask that you let me know what sessions they will require as soon as possible. The session times will remain the same as this year, but if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Tescos and Sainsburys vouchers

We will once again be collecting these! In the past we have been able to order some great equipment, so could you please support us again this year - we accept tokens from family friends and anyone you know, so please start collecting!

Dates for your diaries

End of term service Friday 30th March at 9.00am

Pre-School closes for Easter Friday 30th March 12pm (so no lunch club on that day)

I know that the fundraising team are busy organizing events for Easter and I am sure they will e-mail details to you nearer the time.

Meanwhile, I trust your children will all enjoy the next term at Pre-School - I am very excited about what we have planned!

Emma Lewis
Supervisor