

# The Early Bird Pre-School Newsletter

February 2010

THE EARLY BIRD



## We have our outside space. Hooray!

**Important  
DATE!**

### Term Dates

#### Spring Term

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Jan - Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Apr

#### Half Term

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> - Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Feb

#### Summer Term

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Apr - Fri 16<sup>th</sup> July

#### Half Term

Mon 31<sup>st</sup> May - Fri 4<sup>th</sup> June  
Bank Holiday - Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Jan - Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Apr

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day, Fancy Dress as favourite character from a book.

Subject to 1-2 day closure for staff training.

### **Holiday Club!**

The Early Bird Pre-School is hoping to run a holiday club from the Westbury site.

This will be available from 9.30 - 12.30 (Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April). Available for children aged 3 - 7. The price will be £10 per session. Spaces are limited and please email

[westbury@earlybirdpreschool.co.uk](mailto:westbury@earlybirdpreschool.co.uk) to put your name down indicating days required and name and date of birth of child.

### **Sweatshirts & T-shirts**

We have a few remaining t-shirts and sweatshirts left in stock.

Please see us if you are interested in purchasing any. T-Shirts £5 and sweatshirts are £8.

### The Early Bird Pre-School latest news

At long last after many months and lots of hard work and frustrations we have our outside space. At present we are using the side leading straight from the hall. We are waiting for some better weather so we can finish the back part. Please do go and have a look or see our website for some photos that will be posted shortly.

Please ensure your child has appropriate seasonal clothing to play outside in all weathers and that these are LABELLED. When we have 26 coats, scarves, gloves and hats to sort through it does get complicated and naming these items would help us enormously.

Also please ensure that changing bags and lunch boxes and items are labeled with your child's name on as well. Thank you!

**Swine Flu** - Please continue to look out for signs and symptoms. Please contact NHS direct on 0845 4647 or [www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk) for further information.

### **Works at Parish Centre**

Next term we shall be temporarily be using the side entrance to the hall to allow works in the parish office to be completed.

Please be vigilant in the car park area and keep your children close to you at all times.

We shall be completing a risk assessment and will inform you of any necessary changes.

### **The Early Bird Recipe Folder**

We are currently putting together our favourite recipes into one book to use at pre-school.

We are inviting you to bring in an A4 sheet with a recipe you enjoy making at home with your child. Photos/pictures would be a great addition!

We will then laminate the sheet and add it to our folder. I am sure your child will love to see their own recipe in our folder and it will give us some ideas for activities.

Please no nuts and not too many ingredients in the recipes. Thank you.

## Staff Members

Denisse Skewis - Lead Practitioner, Owner  
Tracie Newton - Deputy Lead Practitioner (SenCo and Health and Safety)  
Rosemary Williams - Deputy Lead Practitioner (Safeguarding Children)  
Vincenza Walls - Practitioner  
Hilary Wright - Practitioner  
Charnjit Chaggar-Chahal - Practitioner  
Vanessa Wong - Practitioner  
Amy Kibler - Practitioner  
Lynda Evans - Helper

## Sickness and Diarrhoea

We follow strict guidelines published by the Health Protection Agency (see noticeboard for the full list of illnesses).

Our policy is that the children must be free of symptoms for 48 hours before returning to the setting.

## Getting Started in Childcare Training

Have you thought about childcare as a possible career change. If so, Lime Tree Children's Centre is shortly offering a choice in childcare course free. This gives an insight into what is involved in a career in childcare.

Phone Lime Tree for further details on 01462 663120

## Planned activities for next term

*Introducing the children to our outside area will be a major feature of next term. We are looking forward to introducing the children to all areas of learning both inside and outside. We shall be looking at communication, language and literacy and will be celebrating world book day on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March.*

*Please feel free to bring your child in this day as their favourite character from a book and encourage them to bring in a book from home to share with the staff and other children.*

*We hope to confirm a date shortly on a trip to the library and will need parent support to allow this to happen.*

*We shall also be celebrating mothering Sunday, Easter and looking at birthdays. If there are any special celebrations or festivals you will be celebrating at home please let us know!*

## Spaces after Easter

We are close to capacity on most of our days after Easter. Please see Denisse asap if you want to increase your child's sessions.

We predict that the setting will be full after Easter and the next opportunity to change hours will be September 2010.

Remember 3 year olds are funded from the term after their 3 birthday - the cut off birth date for funding after Easter is children born before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007.

## Paying Fees

We have changed the company name to Early Bird Childcare Limited and will only be able to accept cheques made out to this name.

See invoice for further details.

We have had a great half term. The children are really enjoying our outside space and we look forward to building on this next term. We enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year - the year of the Tiger. We have sampled Chinese fruit and ingredients, talked about the origins of Chinese New Year and made lanterns and a dragon from the handprints of the children.

If anybody would be interested in helping out at the pre-school please let us know. We always need help with IT, cookery and other small group activities. If you have something you would like to share with the children we would also welcome you into the setting.

Finally thank you for your patience and understanding with the snow over the winter period. Hopefully spring will soon be on its way.

*From all the staff at The Early Bird Pre-School*