

The Early Bird Pre-School (Norton) Newsletter

December 2011



SEASON'S GREETINGS

Important DATE!

Term Dates

Autumn Term
Monday 5th Sept - Fri 16th Dec
Half Term
Mon 24th - Fri 28th Oct

Spring Term
Wed 4th January to Fri 30th March
Half Term
Mon 13th - Fri 17th Feb
Easter Break
Mon 2nd Apr - Fri 13th Apr

Summer Term
Mon 16th Apr - Fri 20th July
Half Term
Mon 4th June - Fri 8th June

Subject to up to a maximum of 3 days closure for staff training.

The Early Bird Pre-School latest news

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas. We hope that you enjoy the holidays and look forward to welcoming you all back on Wednesday 4th January.

Huge congratulations to The Early Bird Pre-School (Westbury) who have joined Norton in being an outstanding provider of Early Years. It is fantastic that both setting's hard work and commitment to the children is recognised by Ofsted.

Mobile Phones & Cameras

Just a reminder that in line with our policies and procedures we would like to remind you that parents are not permitted to use mobile phones in the setting. If you need to take or make a call please let us know and we can help mind your child in the setting.

If you do not want photographs or videos of your child taken by other parents during Christmas week please let your key person know asap.

Snow Policy

This time last year we had already had our first snowfall of the season. We are pleased to say that we had limited closure due to many of the staff walking and bringing their children to pre-school so we didn't have to close. Just a reminder that a notice will be put on our website by 8am if we shall be closing. Please check with Denisse if you don't have access to the internet before travelling.

Children in Need

**We raised an amazing
£55**
Thank you for your help
and contributions.

Sponsored Treasure Hunt

Thank you so much for all the sponsor money and forms. We hope the children enjoyed it. We are so pleased we managed to raise a fantastic £357.90. We have ordered lots of craft items that have arrived with us this week and have a brand new set of easels arriving in the New Year.

Nursery Provision at Early Birds

As from September 2012 we shall be offering afternoon nursery at our Westbury site. Sessions will run from 12 – 3.30pm Monday to Friday and we will be offering the following programme:-

12.00 – 12.30 lunch club (children will bring in their own packed lunch)
12.30 – 2.00 Free Play, Outside Play/Gross Motor Activity – Child Initiated/Continuous Provision
2.00 – 2.15 Numeracy/Literacy Programme (Fine Motor, Letters & Sounds and Numicon)
2.15 – 2.45 Activity Time (Cooking (Mon), Performing Arts (Tues), Languages (Wed) (French & Spanish), Show and Tell (Thurs), Games (Fri))
2.45 – 3.00 Music and Movement/Free Play
3.00 – 3.15 Drink & Snack
3.15 – 3.30 Story Time

This is available to children from the September after their 3rd birthday and will run until the following September when they will move on to reception at one of the local schools. Ask for further details. Early booking is recommended to guarantee your child's place.

17 ½ hours Free of charge for 38 weeks of year (Any additional morning hours will be charged at £3.60 per hour)

Staff Members

Denisse - Lead Practitioner, Owner (Safeguarding Children)
Tracie - Deputy Lead Practitioner (SenCo and Health and Safety)
Rosemary - Senior Practitioner (Observation, Assessment & Planning)
Vincenza - Senior Practitioner (H&S and SenCo)
Ruth - Practitioner
Amy - Practitioner
Louise - Practitioner
Lynda - Helper
Dominic - Helper
Melanie - Administrator

Full Pre-School - As of January 2012 we have a full pre-school with only Monday and Wednesday afternoons free until Sept 2012. However we do have some lunch clubs available. If you would like to book these please let us know so we can arrange suitable levels of staffing.

ITEMS WANTED

We are interested in developing a music wall outside and improving our role play area resources and would welcome any of the following items:-

- Metal rack
- Baby food tins
- Metal cooking utensils
- Saucepan/frying pan
- Lids of the top of sauces (the ones with a popper)
- Parenting magazines
- Children's magazines
- OS maps
- Car magazines
- Kitchen Roll Tubes
- Plastic small bottles with lids e.g. lucozade size
- Portable High Chair

Notices

Footwear -If your child comes to school in wellies please can you also bring in some indoor shoes to enable your child to access all activities. We regularly have the climbing frame out and children need to be wearing sensible shoes to climb safely. Thank you.

Fire Drills - the children have been really good at listening when doing our half termly fire drill. We take the children out and walk them over to our meeting point on the grass by the church.

Contact Details -Please can I remind you that if you have changed any personal details, particularly mobile contact numbers can you let us know so we can update our files.

Asthma/Inhalers - It is essential that we know if your child has an inhaler. These are not to be kept in their bags and we need to fill in a permission form to administer these.

Allergies - Please do let us know if your child has any allergies.

Medicines/Existing Injuries - If your child has had any medicine (e.g. calpol, piriton) before attending pre-school we need to get you to sign a form before you leave. Likewise, with existing injuries.

EARLY DROP OFF

Even though we only had a small number of parents wanting an early drop off at 9am we have decided to trial this for the Spring term. A small number of spaces will be available from 9 - 9.30. If you would like to book one or need an occasional one please check with us and book in.

Christmas Week

Wednesday 7th
December - New Parents Evening

12 - 16th December -
Christmas Party Week

Monday - bouncy castle

Tuesday - Christmas
crafts and baking

Wednesday - face
painter

Thursday - Father
Christmas will be visiting

Friday 16th December -
End of term
performance. Please be
seated in the church by
11.30.

Please note we close at
12pm on the last day of
term. See invitation for
more details.

2011 has gone so quickly, it has been a great year at Early Bird's.

***Wishing you all a fantastic Christmas and a Happy New Year!
From all the staff at
The Early Bird Pre-School***

