

## Newsletter Term 2 2018 No. 095

### Pre-School News

Hello everyone, we have had a busy few weeks with cake stalls and fundraising meetings – please check the committee section for news of our upcoming Christmas Winter Wonderland.

We have had several questions regarding the voluntary snack charge. This money is used to purchase the daily snack, ingredients for baking activities including snack for forest school, play dough and items for the sensory tray. We love to do cooking activities as they provide a wide range of learning opportunities particularly around maths which is our focus at the moment.

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Christmas Play – A Little Nativity  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December and  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December  
@ 2.30pm

A cast list will be coming out soon.....it only needs a very simple costume! Space is very tight for the audience, some seats will be available but it will mostly be standing room only. So we are running two performances, free tickets will be available nearer the time but will be limited to two per family.



**Christmas Party – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December  
9.15am – 11.30am**

**(No session, children must be accompanied by an adult)**

We will have a special visitor at the party, please supply a wrapped and clearly named present for your child (and any siblings that attend) for FC to hand out. They can be left at Pre-school that week.



There will be a food list posted nearer the time and donations would be very welcome☺



DJ Carl will also be helping us to get in the Christmas mood!

Thank you Louise



### Clothing

Please remember to provide spare clothing for your child and please, please do not send them in special clothing to pre-school! We **do not** insist children wear aprons for activities as this can sometimes make them unwilling to take part. We enjoy time indoors and out in all weathers, with mud, flour, water and paint! We also like to go barefoot outside in the summer.

### Forest School



Forest school is well underway and we hope you are enjoying the photographs of the children and seeing how they spend their time.



Tapestry continues to be a lovely way for us to share your childrens time at pre-school and also for us to see what they get up to at home. Please do come and speak to myself or Anna if you need any help accessing Tapestry or if you have not yet received your activation email (Check your junk folder).



### Lunch Boxes

**ALLERGIES** – We do have children with serious allergies; please support us to be a **nut-free** pre-school.

First aid choking guidelines say - **Grapes** must now be quartered, **cherry tomatoes** halved and mini **sausages** cut in half length ways. This also includes any other foods that may present a choking hazard.

**Drinks** – we supply milk and water. You are welcome to put fresh fruit juice in your child's lunch box.

Lunch box leaflet attached for further guidance.

**Chocolate spread** – if your child has chocolate spread sandwiches please ensure they do not contain nuts (EG Nutella). We may call you to confirm this prior to lunch time.

## Committees that make a difference

### Committee News

Thank you to everyone who came along to the AGM last month. We said goodbye and a big thank you to Erin, Jess & Mel who have been an integral part of our team. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome on board our 3 new committee members Debra Steer, Amy Glenn & Katie Summers and Danielle Weller who has joined our fundraising group. They will all no doubt add new energy to our teams!

Fundraising is now one of our biggest areas of responsibility. We are a charity, not a profit making business and we do rely on the money raised to provide day to day provisions NOW whether it be replacing worn & broken toys & play equipment, buying sand, carrying out maintenance or improving the learning environment. The government funding we receive each term has been frozen for several years and therefore we need to make up the difference. Please consider this when you see your volunteer committee asking for cakes for stalls or bits to make the next fundraiser a success. If we all offer/support a little our children will be the biggest winners!

### Winter Wonderland Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 11.45-2.30pm

We are currently working extremely hard pulling together our biggest fundraiser this side of Christmas. The children are learning their opening songs daily and it really does look to be a fabulous afternoon for all the family. We have lots of games & activities to suit children of all ages, tombola, crafty corner offering the opportunity to make bird feeders, reindeer food & other decorations. We have a jewellery stall, Usbourne books, and a reindeer chocolate stall perfect for stocking fillers or Christmas Eve boxes. Not forgetting the Acorns stall where the children are designing their own play dough decorating jars to put in and labelling! The event is being sponsored by Davis Tate estate agents who will be running a couple of games for us and handing out balloons! Keep a look out for their for sale boards advertising it for us.

### Personalised Handmade Christmas Cards (5 for £3)

It couldn't be easier! See the samples on the sign up board, fill in how many packs of each design you would like. Once the money is received (clearly marked in the fees box please) the staff will do the prints in session with your child,

we will then package and place in your child's tray once completed. This year we are offering footprint Christmas trees or reindeer handprints, samples are on the sign up board in the entrance hall.

### Photographer - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December

The sign up sheet & price list are now available in the entrance hall for anyone wanting an easy Christmas present whether it's a professional Christmas jumper shot or the opportunity for someone else to get siblings looking the same way!



## Promoting Positive Behaviour

As part of their time with us children do disagree with each other, at Pre-School all staff use a consistent approach to deal with behaviour in the same way. We talk to the children at their level, support them, depending on their age, to verbalise their feelings and try to get them to realise how their actions may affect others. We do not insist children say sorry as it is more important that they understand how their actions have affected another child.

We encourage them to use kind hands, we support them to look at the other child; look at how they are upset and perhaps are crying and we talk about how sad that child is feeling, we also ask them to think about how they are feeling about causing hurt or upset. By using this approach we hope to support understanding around the cause and effect of actions in a way that children can see visibly and start to be able to verbalise for themselves.

Below is an excerpt from our Positive Behaviour Policy so that you can see how we manage behaviour at Pre-School, it shows some very useful techniques and ideas that we hope will support you at home.

Please do come and speak to us if you have any further questions or queries, Louise is the named behaviour co-ordinator for Pre-School.

### *Initial intervention approach*

- We use an initial problem solving intervention for all situations in which a child or children are distressed or in conflict. All staff use this intervention consistently.
- This type of approach involves an adult approaching the situation calmly, stopping any hurtful actions, acknowledging the feelings of those involved, gathering information, restating the issue to help

children reflect, regain control of the situation and resolve the situation themselves.

- High Scope's Conflict Resolution process provides this type of approach but equally any other similar method would be suitable. Periodically the effectiveness of the approach will be checked.

#### *Focused intervention approach*

- The reasons for some types of behaviour are not always apparent, despite the knowledge and input from key staff and parents.
- Where [we/I] have considered all possible reasons, then a focused intervention approach should then be applied.
- This approach allows [me/the key person and behaviour coordinator] to observe, reflect, and identify causes and functions of unwanted behaviour in the wider context of other known influences on the child.
- We follow the ABC method which uses key observations to identify a) an event or activity (antecedent) that occurred immediately before a particular behaviour, b) what behaviour was observed and recorded at the time of the incident, and c) what the consequences were following the behaviour. Once analysed, the focused intervention should help determine the cause (e.g. ownership of a toy or fear of a situation) and function of the behaviour (to obtain the toy or avoid a situation) and suitable support will be applied.

#### *Use of rewards and sanctions*

- All children need consistent messages, clear boundaries and guidance to intrinsically manage their behaviour through self-reflection and control.
- Rewards such as excessive praise and stickers may provide an immediate change in the behaviour but will not teach children how to act when a 'prize' is not being given or provide the child with the skills to manage situations and their emotions. Instead, a child is taught how to be 'compliant' and respond to meet adult's own expectations in order to obtain a reward (or for fear of a sanction). If used then the type of rewards and their functions must be carefully considered before applying.
- Children should never be labelled, criticised, humiliated, punished, shouted at or isolated by removing them from the group and left alone in 'time out' or on a 'naughty chair'. However, if necessary children can be accompanied and removed from the group in order to calm down and if appropriate helped to reflect on what has happened.

#### *Use of physical intervention*

- The term physical intervention is used to describe any forceful physical contact by an adult to a child such as grabbing, pulling, dragging, or any form of restraint of a child such as holding down. Where a child is upset or

angry, staff will speak to them calmly, encouraging them to vent their frustration in other ways by diverting the child's attention.

- Staff should not use physical intervention – or the threat of physical intervention, to manage a child's behaviour unless it is necessary to use "reasonable force in order to prevent children from injuring themselves or others or damage property" (EYFS).
- If "reasonable force" has been used for any of the reasons shown above, parents are to be informed on the same day that it occurs. The intervention will be recorded as soon as possible within the child's file, which states clearly when and how parents were informed.
- Corporal (physical) punishment of any kind should never be used or threatened which could adversely affect a child's well-being.

#### **High Scope's Conflict Resolution Approach**

High Scope has a six-step process that can be used to help children resolve conflicts that may arise during their day.

Step 1. Approach the situation calmly.

Observe the situation, approach the children with a calm voice, and sit with them on the floor. Stop any hurtful behaviour if necessary.

Step 2. Acknowledge children's feelings.

Describe the feeling you observe and the details of what you see.

"I can see you are unhappy...."

Step 3. Gather information.

Ask open-ended questions, directing your questions to one child, then another.

Step 4. Restate the problem.

Based on what the children say, clarify the problem and check your statement with the children.

Step 5. Ask for ideas for solutions and choose one together.

Encourage children to talk to each other. Be prepared to give suggestions. When children arrive at a solution, restate it and check with them to make sure they are in agreement.

Step 6. Be prepared to give follow-up support.

Sometimes solutions need clarifying as the children begin to play again.

If you would like any further support or guidance or the chance to chat, please do not hesitate to talk to a member of staff.



Our door is always open for you to come in and chat.

You can also contact us by email on -  
[manager.charltonacorns@gmail.com](mailto:manager.charltonacorns@gmail.com) or ring 01235 224088

Many Thanks – Staff Team



**Dates to remember:**

**2018/2019**

**Term 1** Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018– Fri 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

**Term 2** Wed 31<sup>st</sup> October – Fri 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018

**Term 3** Tues 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – Fri 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**Term 4** Tues 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Fri 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

**Term 5** Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 – Fri 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**Term 6** Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019– Wed 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**Upcoming Events**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December – A Little Nativity 2.30pm

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – A Little Nativity 2.30pm

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Winter Wonderland Fun Day  
11.45am – 2.30pm

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Christmas Party 9.15 – 11.30 (No  
Session) @ The Cricket Club