

Newsletter

March 2010

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Staff Team

Manager/Child Protection and Safeguarding Officer - Heather Clarke

Deputy Manager/Health and Safety Officer – Rita Attwell

Supervisor/ Deputy Child Protection and Safeguarding Officer – Wendy Lewis

Inclusion Officer – Lesley Newcombe

Assistants – Caraline Moore, Sarah Guile, Maria Woods, Lisa Taylor, Sarah Naylor, Vicki Whiting, Judith Michell, Karen Ward, Theresa Parsons, Kirsten Turner and Lucy Kingsbury

Bank Staff – Penny Woolford

Rita Attwell has been called to do Jury Service and will not be in Pre-School next week. All of Rita's sessions will be supervised by NVQ 3 staff. Hopefully we will be ready for sessions to start. Rita plays a vital role with the early set ups.

Congratulations to Alison Denton- Brown on the birth of her baby daughter, Erin.

Trustees of Southwater Village Hall Pre-School

Chairman – Kate Hall Telephone: 734939

Treasurer – Sarah Ediss Telephone: 731668

Secretary – Lesley Smith Telephone: 732164

Change to Registration

The change to registration in the preschool sessions has worked really well. Feedback from parents and children has been positive. We will continue this now, and from September children will self register as they arrive.

Staff have requested that children do not arrive late in the plus sessions. Late arrivals can disrupt the session and also the child misses out on helping with the tasks undertaken by the children at registration.

Term Dates

Spring Term 2010

Monday 4th January – Thursday 1st April
(HALF TERM 15th February – 19th February)

Summer Term 2010

Monday 19th April – Friday 16th July
(HALF TERM 31st May – 4th June)
Monday 3rd May – CLOSED Bank Holiday
Thursday 6th May – CLOSED Polling Day (to be confirmed)

Autumn Term 2010

*Monday 6th September – Friday 10th December
(HALF TERM 25th -29th October)
Monday 13th December – CHRISTMAS PARTY
***Please note that Monday 6th September may be an inset day**

Spring Term 2011

Tuesday 3rd January – Friday 8th April
(HALF TERM 21st -25th February)

Illness

Please inform us when your child is absent through illness. If your child goes down with chicken pox please notify pre-school **immediately** as a child attending pre-school at present could become very ill if they come into contact with an infectious child and do not receive medical attention within 72 hours. There have been cases of sickness and diarrhoea. Children must be kept at home for 48 hours after they have last been sick. Please do not send them to preschool when they have been sick the night before. Please make sure that we are able to contact you should your child be taken ill at pre-school. If any of your contact details, especially mobile numbers have changed then you must inform us immediately.

Changes to Themes

After Easter we will no longer be having set 'Themes' in either the Preschool or the Plus sessions. After much discussion staff have decided that by having set themes over each half term children's interests are limited to what we are covering at the time. Planning will be based around the children's interests and areas of learning that need to be developed. The sessions will still run the same. Planned focused activities will cover a wider variety of topics, interests, and activities.

Children in the preschool sessions can still bring in something for the Show And Tell treasure basket. The item must be named and placed in the treasure basket on arrival. The treasure basket will then become an activity after snack time where a member of staff will talk with children about what they have in the basket. In the **plus sessions** the theme will be replaced by 'Letter of the Week'. Children will be asked to bring something in beginning with the letter of the week. One of the focused activities each week will then relate to the letter. Letters will be as follows:

Week beginning

19th April ' a '

26th April ' e '

3rd May ' t '

10th May.....' m '

17th May.....' p '

24th May ' s '

Parking - Reminder

As you are aware we are a very busy preschool with lots of cars and children about at drop off and collection times. Children and cars do not mix. Please **DO NOT** park in the road along the whole of the entrance to the preschool car park or in the car park. This area must be kept clear so that there is a clear view to cross the road. Parents/Carers **must not** remove bollards to gain access to the car park.

Please use the overflow car park opposite the cricket club. It may take a few extra minutes to secure siblings in buggies and to walk down from the car park but you do not want to be responsible for a serious accident to a child?

School Uniform

A new order for preschool t-shirts has been made. Please speak to a member of staff if you would like to reserve any.

Extra Sessions

If your child is not moving into preschool plus in September but you would like an extra preschool session please request so as soon as possible.

Parent/Carer Helpers

Calling all parents, where are you all? Please don't be shy. Why not sign up for a session today? You may find the session a little more noisy than at home, it could be hectic, you may ask why children paint on tables, or come to preschool in their pyjamas! But I can guarantee that you will have fun and it can be very rewarding. Choose a day when your key person is in session and find out more about how your child is getting on.

Buggies, Prams, Scooters and Bikes

Please keep all fire exits clear and do not leave anything in the play area. We cannot be responsible for anything left behind outside at the end of the day. Thank You

Clothing

Coats:

The sun has been shining so some children have not had coats. Unfortunately though it has not been warm enough to play outside without a coat. Please make sure that your child does have a coat until Summer really does arrive.

Shoes:

Fully enclosed shoes must be worn at all times. Crocs and sandals with open toes or open backs must never be worn.

Photographer

For those of you that missed the colour photographer in February you may like to make a note of Monday 14th June when the 'Black and White' photographer will be in.

Haiti Disaster Fund

Thank you all for your support. £53 was raised.

Fun and Fitness

We've registered to take part in the Haven Fun and Fitness Pre-School Sports Equipment Giveaway. It's a great scheme to provide FREE sports equipment for our children. There's no voucher collection or purchase required – but we do need your support. We are very close to reaching the target. One last push and hopefully we will make it. If you have not registered yet but would like to help us get equipment please register today. Log on to www.funfitness.com. Go to free equipment for under 5's. Find us by putting in our postcode, RH13 9BT and register your support. You will then need to click on an e-mail sent back to you confirming your support. Family and friends can also log on.

E-mail

southwaterpreschool@hotmail.co.uk administrator@southwaterpreschool.org

Web site address

www.southwaterpreschool.org

Fees

Your fees invoices for the Summer Term will be coming home shortly. The fees will remain at £11.50 per 3 hour session. We have received a slight increase for funded children from West Sussex County Council so your invoices have been adjusted accordingly and are **less** than last term.

From September 2010 all children eligible for funding will be entitled to 15 hours per week. Further details will follow.

Easter Bonnet Competition

We look forward to seeing all your Easter Bonnets next week. Please note that we are closed on Friday April 2nd so the overall winner will be judged on Thursday afternoon, 1st April and not the Friday as advertised in your original information regarding the competition.

For those of you that have not experienced the Easter Bonnet competition before this is how it works. Your child brings their hat to every session they attend as we have daily winners. All the winners then come together for an overall winner. So please have lots of fun and create your bonnet as a family together.

News from The Fund Raising Team

We would like to help pre-school raise some funds for new role play resources. Please find attached an 'Easter Search' which all the family can do together. We also plan to do a sponsored walk around the field in June. Please support these activities and help us raise funds for our children. Thank You

Did you know?

If you have any concerns regarding your child's eye sight that they can have a free eye test.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's speech or anything concerning your child's development then you can have a check up from your health visitor.

On the parent's information table in the entrance to pre-school you can find a leaflet advertising "Speaking Freely". For more information please contact Amanda Morrison 01403 738880

Wanted

If you now have your new blue lidded recycling bin and no longer require your old green recycling baskets please could we have them? We would like to fill them with soil and grow vegetables in them.

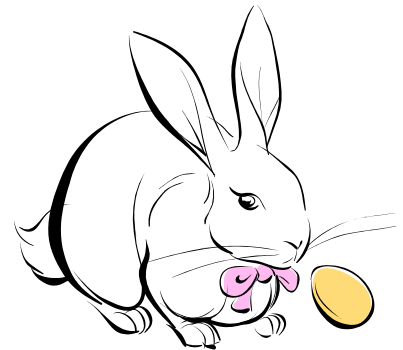
Planning ahead we would like to promote ourselves at the School fete in June. We will be offering children the chance to come and take part in some of the activities we do at preschool. For one of the activities we will need a supply of stickers, children love stickers. So any donations will be very welcome.

Good Luck in the Easter Bonnet Competition and have a lovely Easter

Heather Clarke

Pre-School Manager

On behalf of The Committee and Staff



Telephone: (01403) 733 954 (during session times)
Registered Charity Number. 1027293