

St Helen's Preschool Little Stars



www.sthelenspreschool.co.uk

Tel. 07971 311123

Registered Charity No: 1031937

Newsletter January 2011

Additional sessions from Easter 2011

Please find attached a form to register your interest in any additional sessions that you would like your child to attend following the Easter break. Please note that numbers for each session are restricted.

Winter

Parents are reminded that the ethos of St Helen's Pre-school is that children should be able to enjoy and learn from the outdoor environment in all seasons. We are also required, by the terms of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, to offer free flow access indoors and outdoors throughout most of the session. If we do not offer the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum we will not be able to take the Nursery Education Grant. The Early Years Foundation Stage document is available to download at www.everychildmatters.gov.uk or www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications.

Being winter the weather is likely to be cold and children need to be adequately dressed. Tights or leggings under trousers and a warm sweatshirt or jumper under the pre-school fleece are good starting points. Children also need shoes that will keep their feet warm – they are welcome to bring warm slippers to wear indoors.

Message from the committee

Please continue using the red box in the hall for all correspondence with the committee. This includes all invoice payments, expenses claims, new ideas and feedback.

When posting payments please use the provided receipt book and complete as instructed. Rip out the largest section for your own record of what, when and why you have posted something in the box. The smaller stub remains in the book for the committee records. Please put your child's name on the back of cheques and on envelopes containing cash.

Term Dates

The last day of this term will be Friday 8th April; next term will begin on Tuesday 26th April.

Friday 29th April and Monday 2nd May are bank holidays; pre-school will be closed on these dates.

Lunch Clubs

Crisps, chocolate and sweets are not permitted at pre-school. These do occasionally still appear in children's lunch boxes and it can be quite upsetting for the child when they are not allowed to eat these. Parents are encouraged not to send in sugary drinks e.g. fruit shoots; squash etc. drinking water is always available. All children now drink from cups at lunch time.

Children are encouraged to eat their sandwiches or other savoury items first followed by their fruit. We plan to experiment with offering the children pieces of cheese to eat with their fruit to enable children to try a range of different cheeses over time. We will begin with a mild cheddar and move on as the children are ready to experiment. Please let Tricia know in writing if you do not want your child to eat cheese. (Children eating cheese will be encouraged not to also eat cheese strings etc)

Parents are reminded of the need to inform pre-school, in writing, of any allergies etc.

WOW Stars

Children love to bring WOW stars from home to share their achievements with their friends. We read these out to the group and then the children stick them into their books. Stars are available on the table in the entrance hall.

St Helen's Pre-school Fundraising Web Shop

The web shop works on commission and allows you to buy from a huge list of retailers, including Amazon, M&S and John Lewis, the more people who use it, the more money we will raise for pre-school. www.buy.at/sthelenspreschool

If you have any questions about how to use the Web Shop please email sthelenspreschool@googlemail.com

Nursery Education Grant Funding

The result of the recent survey of parents' opinions has been that we will close for two weeks at the October half term.

Tricia