

# WINDMILL PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

## December 2018

### Photographs

Remember if you would like photographs the orders need to be back by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at the latest.

### Christmas Fayre

Our annual fayre will be on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December 11-1pm** in Brill School hall. There will be crafts and face painting for the children plus Father Christmas, and refreshments. We have had offers of help to set up/pack away and to help with the various activities. Also promised donations for cakes, sausage rolls etc. We are still looking for help with sorting out the ordered Christmas trees on the day!

### Christmas cards

Sarah Thorne has kindly designed and made Christmas cards for the Pre-School to sell to raise money. If you would like to buy some, they are available from Pre-school for a suggested donation of £3 for a pack of 6.

### 80's Aerobics

A big thank you to Laura Walker for organizing this event last week.  
We raised £135.60!

### Parent Helpers

From time to time it would be helpful to have parent/carers to call upon to help with extra activities such as baking and crafts. Please let Claire or Rebecca know if you would like to join our Parent Helper list.



### Term Dates

Close for Christmas break  
Friday 14 December at 12 noon

Return to Pre-School  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb-Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
February closed for half term

Closed for Easter break  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon

Return to Pre-School  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April

Closed for bank holiday  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May- Friday  
31<sup>st</sup> May closed for half term

Closed for Summer break  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 12 noon

### Other important dates

Christmas Fayre – 8<sup>th</sup>  
December

Christmas Songs – 13<sup>th</sup>  
December

Parent Consultations -8<sup>th</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> January

Parent Information Evening  
-24<sup>th</sup> January

### **Parent Information Evening**

On 24<sup>th</sup> January we will be holding an information evening regarding how we "teach" the children in the setting and the reasoning behind this. More details to follow.

### **Parent Consultations**

In January we will be holding Parent Consultations, this is an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress and development. More details to follow.

### **Class 2 Garden**

Work has started on Class 2's garden, we now have new artificial grass and have ordered various new resources which will arrive after Christmas. As part of this project we would like to redevelop our sandpit and add a water play area. If you know of anyone who could help us build a sunken sandpit and a dry river bed area please let us know!

### **2019 School Admission**

If your child is due to start school in September 2019, please remember to apply by 3pm on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

### **Christmas Songs Show**

This year the children will be singing Christmas Songs on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December. The performance will start at approximately 9.30am and will be held in Brill School hall. All parents/carers are invited to come and watch and if it is not your child's normal day they are welcome to attend the Show. Children can dress in anything they like or just wear their normal clothes. Refreshments will be available.

### **Xmas Parties**

Over the last week of term lists will be put up outside both classrooms asking for donations of food.

### **Woodland Trust award**

The Woodland Trust promotes the teaching of children outside and connects them with woods and the general environment. We are pleased that we have achieved a bronze award and are now working towards a Silver.

### **Helicopter Stories**

In Class 2 the children make up their own stories and an adult scribes this for them. Later in the session we make a stage and the children act out the stories.

We are lucky to have Trisha Lee from Helicopter Stories coming in to train the whole team in April 2019. More details can be found on the attached flyer.

### **Class 2 Woodwork**

We will be starting this in January 2019 - if anyone can donate the following items we would be very grateful: balsa wood, pine wood, corks, buttons, string, beads, Cds, Dvds or lids.

### **Staff Training**

Over the past two months the staff have attended various training courses including:

- Introducing woodwork - Claire
- SENCO Liaison Group - Aimee
- Safeguarding - Stephanie & Jo
- PALS (playing & learning to socialise) - Aimee
- Leadership - Caroline
- Creating an art space - Caroline & Aimee
- Forest School network meetings - Claire & Aimee

### **Policy of the month**

This month's policy is Emergency Closure and is attached to the covering email.

### **Winter Clothing and lost property**

Just to remind you that your child must have a suitable coat, wellies, and if possible, their own waterproofs to wear here. The children go out in all weathers and they need to be protected from the elements! They will also need a hat and gloves. Please ensure all the above are **named**. Please make sure you take home your child's belongings, cardigans, containers from lunchboxes. We have already accumulated quite a collection so make sure you check the box by the front door before the end of term. Our normal policy is to donate lost property to charity at the end of half term.

### **No dogs Please!**

Can we remind you not to bring dogs down to Pre-School. They aren't allowed on School premises at all so if you do have a dog with you please leave them by the gate to the main field area, near the tennis court.

### **Donation Tree**

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated items from our Wish Tree. These small items make a big difference to our budget. Please continue to bring items in.

## **Parking!**

You will be aware that the parking in The Firs is extremely limited and those of you with children at Brill School will know they have recently sent out a communication about not parking anywhere near the school. The road is too narrow and the only parking available is for staff and visitors.

Please help us support Brill School by not parking any nearer than The Green, at the entrance to The Firs. We appreciate it is hard when you have a younger child to transport as well but we have had complaints from local residents who are finding cars blocking their driveways.

## **Safeguarding**

If you have concerns about a child you can contact First Response on the following numbers:

0845 4600 001 Out of hours: 0800 9997677 Local rate: 01296 383962

Email: [secure-cypfirsresponse@buckscc.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:secure-cypfirsresponse@buckscc.gcsx.gov.uk)

## **Class News**

### **Class 1**

For a few weeks we have explored cloud design using a variety of containers of different sizes to support development concepts. We created a stage as a few children demonstrated an interest in singing Disney songs and dressing up as Princesses. We have also introduced a shape song to develop another mathematical concept.

### **Class 2**

Class 2 have been watching the workmen in the garden laying our new artificial grass! We have started to get "Christmassy" and have decorated our own real tree from Hartwell Nurseries who kindly gave us a 50% discount. We have also started to make cards. Santa sent us a parcel that had a cheeky elf in it! He is going to help us get ready for Christmas!

We celebrated Thanksgiving and made our own pumpkin cookies.

