

Charity No. 137620



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Newsletter

Issue No.52 October 2018

Welcome Back

We welcome two new children and their families and a volunteer staff member - Danielle Cross.

Term Dates

We return on Monday 29th October 2018.
Parent/Key Person meetings weeks commencing 29th October and 5th November
Stay and Play session – Monday 5th November 11.15 – 12.15 or 2.15 – 3.15 (See page 2)
AGM – Monday 12th November – 8pm
Xmas Trip Wednesday 5th December 2018
Inset Day – Friday 7th December 2018
Xmas Concert Friday 14th December 2018
Last day of term is Monday 17th December 2018
We return on Thursday 3rd January 2019

NEARLY NEW SALE

The Nearly New Sale is 17th November 2018. The event is a great opportunity for sellers, buyers and the preschool. The preschool usually raises over £200 towards toys for your children to enjoy, it would therefore be wonderful to see a few more parents supporting us. If you are interested in being a seller or want more information, please contact us via email - Blackmorenearlynew@gmail.com. If you do want to support us, please visit us at the Village Hall on the 17th November between 10am and 12, with your £1 entry fee, which also gets you a tea or coffee.

Show & Tell

During this half term we will be looking at letters in the alphabet, books and Christmas for our show and tell. We would like to invite all children to bring in an item from home. If you could label the item, we would really appreciate it (this saves a lot of confusion!).

Weeks commencing – 29th October – N/O. 5th November – P/Q/R. 12th November – S/T /U 19th November – V/W/X/Y/Z
26th November – favourite book. 3rd December – Christmas book. 10th December – Christmas toy

Sickness

If your child has experienced sickness or diarrhoea they may not return to Pre-school until they have been symptom free for 48 hrs under Ofsted guidelines. If your child has a temperature or is unwell enough to require "Calpol" please do not bring them into preschool.

Financial Support

If you are having difficulties paying your fee's, or any other payments related to the preschool, then please speak to Angie Bonnen or Angela Taylor

Coats and Footwear

Please remember to bring your child's coat with their name clearly written inside, to avoid confusion when going outside to play. And ensure footwear is appropriate – ie no open toes or slippery soles.

Reminders

Can you please provide a spare change of clothes in a named bag for all children as we regularly have water play and children often get wet! We only have limited supply of spare clothes! Also, if appropriate a change of nappies with wipes.

Children's bags

Please do not leave anything in bags that children should NOT have, e.g creams, medication etc. The bags are accessible for all children and some children have the same bags. You may think your child knows what the item is for but other children may not and take it orally. We now supply nappy sacks so you no longer need to. Equally, can you please check coat pockets for small items, and coins!

Safeguarding - Reporting Absence

In line with Ofsted recommendations, please inform us if your child is to be absent for any reason; sickness, holiday, an appointment (yourself or your child), visiting family etc. For attendance of less than 80% could result in funding being withdrawn.

Lunch Club

Lunch club, on Wednesday's and Friday's is available for children approaching 3 years. You can book and pay half termly in advance at £2.50 or pay £3.00 on the morning. At Pre-school we promote healthy eating. Please cut cherry tomatoes, grapes, blueberries, etc in half and don't provide items that could be a choking hazard. We must also stress that **lunch boxes do not contain nuts or any products containing nuts as we have children with Nut Allergies, if Nut items are present in lunch boxes these will be returned unopened. Also please check best before/use by dates and please don't provide warm or hot lunches as lunchboxes are kept in a cool bags. If home cooked items (ie cakes) are included, please let us know the ingredients.**
Thank you. To encourage an Independent school ready lunchtime, please ensure Lunch Boxes are child friendly – ie easy to open, not too many lidded boxes, foil instead of clingfilm and named. Thank you.

Stay and Play Sessions

Stay and Play sessions are a wonderful opportunity for you to see our preschool through your children's eyes. We invite you to come in to experience an hour of your child's day. During this time, your child will lead you to various activities in the hall or garden so you can play together. Staff are available to support your play and chat to, although if you want to speak about your children's specific development please arrange an appointment. We request no siblings on these dates so that you can have dedicate time for you and your preschool child and to ensure our toys are appropriate for the age of the children present.

The next Stay and Play is Monday 5th November at 11.15 or 2.15. Provisional Dates for the rest of the year – Friday 18th January. Wednesday 6th March. Thursday 16th May. Tuesday 4th June. These are subject to change. We would encourage you to participate in at least one if possible.

Parents Getting Involved - AGM

We are a parent committee run preschool, with the staff focusing on the day to day running of sessions. To enable the preschool to continuing operating, the committee is legally required to have a certain amount of members, without these members the preschool would have to close. You don't need a particular skill, or have a lot of time on your hands, just an interest in shaping your child's learning experience. The AGM will be held on 12th November at 8pm in the committee room. This is your opportunity to find out more about how your preschool is run and how you can be involved, you can give as much or as little of your time as you can spare. If you would like more information but are unable to attend, please email - info@blackmorepreschool.co.uk, or speak to Liz Caplan, Vicky Stoddart, Angela Taylor or Angie Bonnen.

Staff Members

To support us in teaching your children our names, we are attaching photos of staff members. These are also available on our website, name badges and parents notice board.



Angela Taylor



Angie Bonnen



Karen Allen



Jane Elmes



Melanie Andrews



Erica Gannicott



Julie Pounds



Anna Wilson

When joining the preschool you are introduced to your Key Person. Your Key Person is responsible for building a good relationship with your child and you, they will record observations and plan your child's next steps on a 'planning to respond', these are available in setting so any staff member can work with your child when required. We work well as a team and have good communication between us, we use a rota system to ensure all staff get to know all the children so they don't become dependent on one person, but your Key Person, will know your child best. The 2 Managers, Angela and Angie, also spend time getting to know all the children so in the absence of the Key Person, the Managers can support your child. If you have a need to speak with your Key Person but they are not immediately available you can either make an appointment or speak with 1 of the managers.



We also have Emma Lloyd, who is our Bank Staff. Emma will cover a session when a staff member can't work ie due to illness.

Danielle Cross has recently joined us as a volunteer once a week, she enjoys coming in to read, play and do craft with your child.

Parent Viewings

We would like to invite you in to meet with your child's key person and discuss your child's progress after October half term, please see your key person to book an appointment, or request to take your book home.

Collection Time

Thank you to all parents who arrive at the end of the session on time. We end our sessions with singing and stories so the children have sat eagerly awaiting your arrival and when they see you are very excited to get to you, for your child's safety can we request that you come right into the hall once we open the doors and collect bags and pictures on your way out. Thank you.

Photo's

We would just like to reiterate that you can not publish any pictures or videos on any form of social media or share any pictures taken of our preschool children. Our Safeguarding procedures are in place to protect all children and as you have not been given parental consent you may not take photo's of other children.

Taking photo's of your own child for personal use is obviously acceptable. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Listen Up!!

Being able to communicate is not just about talking. Along with getting your own message across, being able to listen, pay attention, interact, play and understand what's being said are the fundamental building blocks of communication.



Playtime is special. Not only is it fun, but it is critical to children's development. Play is their "work" and their way of learning about the world around them. Mastering the art of play allows children to 'climb the stepping stones' and to one day be effective communicators. Through play, babies and toddlers try out new skills, explore their imagination and creativity, and learn about relationships with other people.

Any activity can be playful to young children, whether it's rolling trucks back and forth or sorting socks. And any type of play can offer multiple opportunities to learn and practice new skills:

As a parent, you are your child's very first and favourite playmate.

So what can you do to make the most of your child's playtime?

Follow your child's lead - Provide an object, toy, or activity for your baby or toddler and then see what they do with it. It's okay if it's not the "right" way...let them show you a "new way."

Go slowly - It's great to show your child how a toy works, but try to hold off on "doing it for them" every time. You can begin something, such as stacking one block on another, and then encourage them to give it a try.

Play it again, Sam - While this desire to do things over and over again is not necessarily thrilling for mums and dads, it is for their young children. They are practicing in order to master a challenge. And when they can do it "All by myself!" they are rewarded with a powerful sense of their own competency—a confidence that they are smart and successful beings. The more they practice and master new skills, the more likely they are to take on new challenges and the learning continues. So when you're tempted to hide that toy that you don't think you can stand playing with yet one more time, remember the essential role repetition plays in your child's development.