

Charity No. 137620



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## Newsletter

Issue No.53 January 2019

### Welcome Back

We welcome six new children and their families this half term and hope they settle well.

#### Term Dates

We return on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.  
**Stay and Play** session – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January 11.15 – 12.15  
(See page 2)  
**Sponsored Pancake Flip** – Week Commencing 4<sup>th</sup> March  
(see page 3, sponsor form to follow)  
**Last day** of term is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February  
We return on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February

#### NEARLY NEW SALE

The Nearly New Sale was on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The was well attended by the community and helped us raise £396. Thank you to those few parents who came and supported us. Due to the Village Fayre in May our next NNS will be next November. If you are interested in being a seller or want more information, please contact us via email - [Blackmoreearlynew@gmail.com](mailto:Blackmoreearlynew@gmail.com).

#### SCHOOL APPLICATION DEADLINE

Website for school applications is <http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions>. Closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019. For further details see the poster in the foyer at preschool.

#### Show & Tell

During this half term we will be looking at our favourite books and invite all children to bring in their favourite stories to share with us. If you could label the book, we would really appreciate it (this saves a lot of confusion!). Stories we will be reading to the children at the end of session, this half term –  
Week Commencing – 7<sup>th</sup> Jan – Hungry Caterpillar. 14<sup>th</sup> Jan – Gingerbread Man. 21<sup>st</sup> Jan – Bear Hunt. 28<sup>th</sup> January – Emergency.  
4<sup>th</sup> February – Goldilocks and 3 bears. 11<sup>th</sup> February – Dear Zoo.

#### 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

#### 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.**

#### 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!**

#### 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.

#### Lunch Club

Lunch club, on Wednesday's and Friday's is available for children approaching 3 years. You can book and pay half termly at a cost of £2.50 or pay £3.00 at short notice. 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 Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January. Provisional Dates for the rest of the year – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June.** These are subject to change. We would encourage you to participate in at least one if possible.

### Parents Getting Involved – AGM

Thank you to those parents who attended the AGM. It was disappointing to see only one new face! Luckily, thanks to those few parents who give their time and support, the preschool can continue running. If you would still like to join the committee, you can do so by contacting the email below or speak to Angela Taylor or Angie Bonnen, your Managers. 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.

Email - [info@blackmorepreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@blackmorepreschool.co.uk).

### 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.



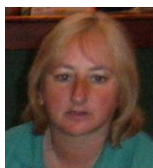
Angela Taylor



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. Danielle will be joining our Bank Staff in the near future.

We are looking to appoint a new member of staff in January. Watch this space for updates in the next newsletter.

Many of our staff specialise in a certain area of the preschool, these are as follows –

**SEN** – Angie Bonnen. **Safeguarding** – Melanie Andrews/Angela Taylor. **Health and Safety** – Julie Pounds/Angela Taylor.

**2 Year Co-Ordinator** – Karen Allen. **Behaviour** – Angie Bonnen/Angela Taylor. **Enco** – Jane Elmes. **First Aid** – All regular staff.

### Wow Moments

To support your child's learning journal and to work in partnership with us, we invite you to complete a wow moment each term. These are blank certificates we hold in setting which are completed by you to celebrate your child's achievements at home and then share with us. These can be big achievements or little ones – ie learning to ride a bike, learning to clean their own teeth, sleep alone, being kind to a sibling, counting, singing, etc....



### Why should I know some First Aid?

First aid comes in handy in a variety of different situations. Accidents happen all the time, after all, so knowing what to do in an emergency is important.

Having children, though, knowing how to perform first aid becomes much more critical. While accidents can – and do – happen to virtually everyone, they tend to happen with kids a lot more frequently.

Children are quite good at getting themselves into jams, and accidents ranging from scraped knees to broken bones are par for the course in many a childhood. For that reason we have attached a small First Aid Guide along with a guide to help recognise the signs for Meningitis. Please take a moment to read through these and put them somewhere handy to refer to in case of an emergency - maybe in your wallet or on the fridge/freezer for all to see.

### **Defibrillators**

**Defibrillators are very easy to use. Although they don't all look the same, they all function in broadly the same way. The machine gives clear spoken instructions. You don't need training to use one.**

If you come across someone who is not breathing or breathing erratically, the most important thing is to call 999 and **start CPR** to keep the blood flowing around the body. After a **cardiac arrest**, every minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces someone's chance of survival by 10 per cent.

If you're on your own, don't interrupt the CPR to go and get a defibrillator. If it's possible, send someone else to find one. When you call 999, the operator can tell you if there's a public access defibrillator nearby. (Make yourself familiar where your local defib is– check on-line at <https://www.eastamb.nhs.uk/your-service/campaigns/Community-Public-Access-Defibrillators-in-EEAST.xlsx> (There is one by Blackmore Village hall & social club and one by the Co-operative store)

Once the defibrillator is open and in position, all you have to do is follow the spoken instructions. Many defibrillators will also have diagrams or a screen to help you. The defibrillator detects the heart's rhythm, it won't deliver a shock unless one is needed.

Often you'll need to press the shock button although some fully automatic defibrillators will deliver the shock themselves. You should resume CPR as soon as instructed by the defibrillator.

### Fundraising

Thank you to Wendy Cohen who raised £80 by arranging a Yoga event. We purchased some new sound lotto games.

Out of money raised from another successful Nearly New Sale we have purchased the following – new dolls, ladybird counting aids, Stampers, stickers, tuff spot and stand, books, music CDs, craft items and new cars.



### **Pancake Flip**



This year we are going to raise money for a set of large reading book. This is a great opportunity for you to raise money for your preschool to celebrate your child's achievements in pancake flipping. During the week each child will be given a frying pan and (real) pancake and timed to see how many pancakes he/she can flip. This is such a fun event that is supported by your child, for your child. Nearer the time we will supply you with a sponsorship form which we would appreciate you completing and returning with the money raised so we can purchase the above item. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



## Internet Safety



The internet is amazing and an opportunity for children to play, learn, create and connect but with the digital world changing all the time it is important to ensure children stay safe.

There are a few ways you can support children to stay safe – Setting parent controls on devices, passwords to stop accidental use, talking to children in an age appropriate way and explore together, use safe search engines, help children learn through games, manage access and set boundaries.

Whilst we use Ipads in setting these are not connected to the internet, and we use them as an opportunity to teach colours, shapes, positional language, sharing and other areas of learning that present themselves, we also use this time to talk in basic terms about staying safe online by using Ipads and phones near an adult and telling a grown up if something makes them unhappy. Whilst children are inquisitive and like to explore we need to ensure they are not exposed to a situation that is above their age level.

For more information, some suggested websites are –

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

[www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)

[www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

[www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)



## Holiday Sheets



Please see attached a Christmas holiday sheet. These sheets are a fantastic prompt for your child to share their thoughts, ideas and stories with us. Please use drawings, writing and/or photos to share your Christmas experiences. These sheets will be shared with your child and then placed in their learning journals.

Thank you for your support.