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Newsletter

Issue No.55 April 2019

Welcome Back

Hope you all enjoy the Easter break. We welcome 4 new families who join us this term.

Term Dates

We return on Wednesday 24th April 2019.

Closed – Polling Day – 2nd May 2019

Bank Holiday – 6th May 2019

Stay and Play session – Thursday 16th 11.15 – 12.15 (See page 2)

Due to the uncertainty of Brexit we have been informed that we may not be able to open on Thursday 23rd May due to hall being hired to the council – this is a prewarning, but we will assume we are open unless we are told otherwise.

Last day of term is Friday 24th May 2019.

We return on Tuesday 4th June 2019.

Pancake flip

A massive thank you to all those parents who took the time to collect sponsorship money to reward your child/children for taking part in the annual pancake flip. **We raised an impressive £450.** We have purchased some large reading books, maths equipment, craft items and dressing up outfits. Due to the success of the Pancake Flip, we will delay the sponsored bounce till the next academic year.

Show & Tell

During this half term we will be looking at Animals. We would encourage your child to bring in a named toy as follows – w/c 24th April & 29th April - A Zoo Animal. w/c 6th May – A Jungle Animal . w/c 13th May – A Pet Animal. w/c 20th May – A farm Animal.

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 or Angela.

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 For attendance of less than 80% could result in funding being withdrawn.

Spare Clothes!

If you have any spare leggings or jogging bottoms you would like to donate – aged 3-5 years, they will be gratefully received. Our clothing seems to travel home, but not back again!! Thank you.

Children's bags

To ensure bags are labelled, we will be supplying named keyrings for each child. These will be placed on your bag to allow us to find it quickly should we need to. Please provide a bag for each child, to include a change of clothes for each child, sometimes children need to be changed due to water play or paint, we have limited stock and children tend to prefer their own things. **Please do not leave anything in bags that children should NOT have,** e.g creams, medication etc as the bags are accessible during session. **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.

Committee Members

We have successfully filled the positions on the committee. A huge 'Thank you' to the parents who have agreed to join us in shaping the future of the Preschool. We now have a viable committee for September, however, if you are willing to support your child's preschool please speak to Angela or Angie, or email - info@blackmorepreschool.co.uk.



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 Thursday 16th May 11.15 till 12.15. Last provisional date of the year – Tuesday 4th June. We look forward to seeing you.

Staff Members



Angela Angie Karen Jane Melanie Erica Julie Anna Lorraine Danielle Emma

Parent Viewings

After the Easter Holidays we will be holding parent viewings. Please speak to your Key Person to arrange a mutually agreeable date and time to come in to discuss your child's development and interests.

Wow Moments – Name change - 'look what I can do'

To support your child's learning journal and to work in partnership with us, we invite you to complete a new form 'look what I can do'. These are blank certificates we hold in setting (usually in foyer, but will be handed to your during your viewing), these are completed by you to celebrate your child's achievements at home and then shared 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....

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.

Please cut cherry tomatoes, grapes, blueberries, etc in half and don't provide items that could be a choking hazard.

Please ensure **lunch boxes do not contain nuts or any products containing nuts, 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 healthy and child friendly – ie easy to open, not too many lidded boxes, foil instead of clingfilm and named.

Please ensure your child's name is on the lunchbox and visible from the outside. Thank you.

. Late collection and arrival

A big thank you to those parents who drop off and collect on time, however, we must request that all parents are on time. Unless you have an arrangement with us, children should arrive at 9.15, if parents arrive late, it delays staff being able to start activities with your children. Equally children who are left with the adults on the carpet, alone, aren't happy, even if it's only for a few minutes. Given that we have had an improvement in parents mainly being on time at the end of session, introducing an additional late collection policy is on hold, however, this may change in the future. The late fee for collecting your child later than 15 minutes after session end is still in place.

Curriculum Planning

Between February and Easter we learnt about textures, discussed our holiday sheets, practiced our balancing skills on the beam, shared books and stories, developed maths skills and worked with adults on our individual next steps.

This half term (between Easter and May half term), during the morning sessions, we will be celebrating St George's day, extending our maths skills and sharing books and stories. During the afternoon sessions we will be getting 'school ready' and beginning to understand story sequencing, letter formation, phonics, looking at Occupations, healthy eating and we will have a visit from a Bearded Dragon.

GDPR

If we text you or leave a voicemail message and it seems impersonal (ie, no use of name, or just initials), that's because, due to the changes in GDPR policy, we can't use any personal information, so we apologise if they seem aloof!

Parking

Polite reminder that the passing bay is not a parking space, it is too ease congestion and allow cars to pass safely, therefore please park sensibly and in the designated parking spaces available.

Parent Support

As part of our promotion of British Values and teaching children Rule of Law, and to enable them to be 'School Ready' we thought it would be a great opportunity to gain your support in our approach. At preschool the staff aim to be consistent in the terminology that is used. We use positive reinforcement to encourage children to follow preschool rules enabling them to understand what is expected of them. Please ask your children to say 'Please' and 'Thank you' as this promotes kindness, gratitude and respect. Some of the words/phrases we use are:

'walking feet' 'indoor voices' 'kind hands' 'nice words' 'use your words'
'listening ears' 'Be kind to others'

To further promote respect to others, please offer praise when your child is kind and/or helps others.

Summer Trip

The committee have taken over the organisation of the Summer Trip so watch this space for further information. Preschool may close on Trip Day, depending on numbers of children attending the Trip.

May Fayre – Musicals – 'The Lion King'

We would like to invite you in to preschool to print T-shirts with your child. Please could you bring in a yellow T-shirt for yourself and your child. Dates to visit us are – weeks commencing 13th May and 20th May, Monday to Friday, at 9.15 or 11.45.

Saturday 26th May – Preschool age party – 2.30 till 4.30. Flyers to follow giving further information on where to purchase tickets at a cost of £2.50 per child.

Sunday 27th May – Parade – We will be joining the parade at 12, sporting our newly printed yellow T-shirts with the logo for 'The Lion King'. We will meet at 11.45 in the garden of the preschool.

Provisional/Future dates

Next viewing dates – week commencing 29th April, 7th May, 13th May. If you wish to view your book or see your Key Person before these dates, please let us know.

Stay and Play sessions – Tuesday 4th June.

Photographer – Thursday 20th June.

Possible summer trip – Date to be confirmed.

End of term party – £5 cost for all to cover the Entertainer (no additional session fees)

Children who remain on our register in September 2019 - 9-15 – 12.00 (please note time change).

Children who leave July 2019 – 11.45 – 2.00, Leavers play to begin at 2.

Letter to following confirming details.