

Charity No. 1137620



Mobile - 07972 810218
Landline - 01277 821496
Email - enquiries@blackmorepreschool.co.uk
www.blackmorepreschool.co.uk

Newsletter

Issue No.66 October 2020

Welcome Back

We look forward to welcoming you all back for our final term of 2020 and some fun Christmas activities.

Term Dates

Last day of term is Friday 18th December
We return on Tuesday 5th January 2021
Stay and Play On hold
Viewings On hold (paper reviews issued and phone calls offered)

Fundraising

We will not be fundraising this term as we are introducing the voluntary contribution and would appreciate your support in making this payment so that we can continue to offer the varied activities and resources to promote your child's learning.

Staff Members



Angela



Angie



Karen



Jane



Anna



Lorraine



Danielle



Liz

Staff Training

Staff aim to complete at least 1 online training course each term to keep up to date with current practice, including Food Hygiene, Prevent Duty in early years, Effective transition and emotional wellbeing in the early years and Creating and effective communication and language environment .

Curriculum Planning

This Term (Oct - Dec), during the morning sessions, we will be completing Christmas activities and decorating Christmas decorations, playing with instruments and understanding what happens when we mix colours.

During the afternoons we will be continuing with early handwriting and practising tripod grip, construction challenge and looking at shapes in the environment. We will continue to look at jolly phonics and concentrate on 's', 'a', 't' and introduce 'p', 'l', 'n'

During this time key workers continue planning for your child's individual development and each child is worked with at their own rate and level of understanding.

Safeguarding - Reporting Absences

In line with Ofsted recommendations, if your child is to be absent for any reason; isolating, sickness, holiday, an appointment (yourself or your child), visiting family etc. You need to inform us ASAP, on the day of the absence. Attendance of less than 80% could result in funding being withdrawn. When informing us of absences, please telephone or text rather than email as this is not checked every day. Thank you.

General 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 cough, please keep them home initially, however mild, to ensure it does not progress to a continuous cough or develop a temperature. If you are unsure, please give us a call to discuss, we appreciate children are going to get colds this time of year, and often a cough will accompany it, but we have to follow our guidance and we need to keep everyone safe. If in doubt, do not attend and give us a call. Please also remember to check your child's temperature each morning, in accordance with the policy and government guidance.

Thank you for your patience and participation in this matter.

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.

EYPP – Early Years Pupil Premium

EYPP is an additional funding for early years settings to improve outcomes for children by providing them with enhanced learning and development support. You may be eligible if you receive one of the following – Income support, income based jobseekers allowance, Income related employment and support allowance, Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit (provide you're not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of no more than (16,190), Working tax credit run on, Universal Credit. See <https://eycp.essex.gov.uk/funding/early-years-pupil-premium/> for full details. If you think this applies to you, please ring Angie or Angela or ask to speak to them at the door.

Working in Partnership with Parents – Speech, language and communication

Speech, language and communication play a vital role in our lives. Children rely on these to learn at school and play with their friends. They need these skills to reach their full potential. They are fundamental building blocks for a child's development. Children learn at different rates. To support children at home you could try – Singing nursery rhymes, Making up silly rhymes (the cat has a hat), Clapping out syllables (di-no-saur), Playing 'I spy', Playing describing games ie what am I?, Using technology ie walkie talkies or microphone, reading and looking at pictures and talking about what you read and see.

Working in Partnership with parents - Skills

If you have a particular skill or occupation – ie yoga, play an instrument, vet, nurse, etc.. We would love to share this with the children, whilst we can't have you in, please ring or email Angela or Angie as we could accept a short video which you could email, which we could share with the children via an Ipad.

'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 'look what I can do'. These are blank certificates we hold in setting, 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.... We will place one in your child's bag this half term if you could complete and return.

Policies

Policies are available for you to view on our website – www.blackmorepreschool.co.uk. If you require a copy of these, please let Angie or Angela know.

Facebook/website home page

Please remember to check Facebook for updates (please join the closed group if you haven't already done so). If we are unable to open for any reason we will update our website home page and Facebook. Our website has a huge range of information and our policies.

Arrival and Collection

Only one parent/carer is able to drop and collect at a time. Please line up 2m apart and drop at the main doors, parents are not allowed access without prior appointment, if you do need to speak to key person/manager, please telephone or text. We will now remove coats and bags from the children once they have entered the building. Thank you

Children's coats & bags

Thank you for providing a coat for your child, that is named and free of toys in pockets! This makes things much easier for us! Please continue to do so and keep checking those pockets!

Thank you also for providing a named bag, please do ensure you have at least one change of clothing available. We feel that sending home art work and letters via the bag is working, but if you feel otherwise please email, text or ring and let us know.

Comforters/toys

Comforters are the only items from home we will be allowing. Please do not bring any other toys in as we don't want upset children as they arrive. Many thanks for your help and support.

Don't forget to keep providing one piece of fruit a week. We do appreciate your efforts to giving us variety. Please continue to place this in your child's changing bag and only provide peelable fruit.

Thank you

Lunch Club

Lunch club will still only run for children doing full day sessions (or an afternoon session only). If you are interested in prepaying for the Wednesday and/or Friday lunch club please let us know by email or text and we can start a waiting list. Whilst guidance still requires additional cleaning, we will use this time to do a deeper clean.

When providing lunch 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. If home cooked items (ie cakes) are included, please let us know the ingredients, or a note showing nut free. Thank you. If providing prawns or crabsticks, please place a cool pack in the lunch box with it please.**

To promote healthy eating we request no chocolate, sweets or fizzy drinks.! Thank you.

Committee Members - AGM

Over the past few years it has become increasingly difficult to get parents involved with the Preschool Committee, but without a committee the preschool can't operate. We are always seeking members and this is an ideal opportunity to join your preschool committee, you don't need a particular skill, or to attend every meeting but be willing to do a small amount of decision making regarding how the preschool is run. The managers and committee work together to make sure the preschool is a safe and welcoming place for your child to learn. Our AGM is due to take place in November so if you are interested and would like to attend the AGM or seek further information please email - info@blackmorepreschool.co.uk.

Billing/Fee's

Bills will now have been issued, so if you have not yet received yours, please check your junk. The email will be issued from billing@blackmorepreschool.co.uk. Please pay promptly as we spend many wasted hours chasing payment of fees. Thank you.

SCHOOL APPLICATION

For those children who will be going off to big school in September 2021 please see below a flyer from Blackmore Primary School. Website for school applications is <https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>. Closing date is 15th January 2021.



School Tours Reception 2021

We know how important it is for parents to get a 'feel' for a school and always enjoy showing prospective families around. It is with this in mind that, after careful consideration, we have made the decision to offer face-to-face tours in November.

To keep everyone in our school community safe as safe as we can from COVID-19, we are restricting our tour slots to one day – Saturday 7th November – when the building will be empty and deep cleaning can be more easily facilitated.

We can also allow only 1 parent/carer to sign up for a tour (without children please) and we politely ask that a mask be worn. We will show you around the school and then hold a short meeting in the school hall. This will be socially distanced and tours will be strictly limited to 6 people per group on a first come, first served basis.

Available time slots are:

9.30 - 10.15

10.30 - 11.15

11:30 – 12:15

13:00 – 13:45

14:00 – 14:45

15:00 – 15:45

For more information about our school, please visit our website: <https://www.blackmore.essex.sch.uk/>

To book a tour please call the school office on 01277 821528 or email us at: admin@blackmore.essex.sch.uk

We very much look forward to meeting you.

Due to Coronavirus restrictions we will not be having the photographer visit the setting this year and we will not be able to arrange the concert or party. We will aim to make the final week a fun one with additional activities like the parachute and party games and sticky kids fun and maybe a walk by from Father Christmas!!