



Newsletter March 2013

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the March Preschool Newsletter. A big welcome to our new starters! Please feel free to chat to any of the committee members about our activities and we love all parents to join in and support us as much as possible.

New Equipment: Jane and her fundraising team have had a very successful year obtaining grant awards. This has enabled us to buy lots of new communication and healthy living tools for both preschool and home use. The details of how the grants were spent are listed below:

Communication Grant

Light Box: We have purchased a folding table with light box which enables the children to develop their exploration skills using x-rays and colours.

Listening Station: This allows children to listen to audio stories through headphones.

Sensory Blocks: These can be used for building, creating patterns or as a stimulus to children's creativity on the light box.

Interactive Stories: With CDs, music and picture cards

Elizabeth Jarman CFS (Communication friendly spaces) for all the family: We have 2 CFS packs available for families to take home to create dens / talking spaces with their children. Please look on the Elizabeth Jarman website under CFS bags for more information, or ask at preschool.

Funding for Healthy Living

We have been lucky enough to be able to purchase lots of new outdoor equipment for the children to use including:

Small bikes / trikes and scooters

Small wooden greenhouse and gardening tools

Wormery

Water tray and sandpit

2 Garden benches

Talking tubes for up to 8 people

Fundraising: We will be holding an Easter bazaar on Friday 15th March from 11.30 in the preschool hall in aid Comic Relief. There will be stalls, refreshments and activities for the children. If you have any old toys that you would like to donate for sale in aid of Comic Relief please bring them in to preschool. Also, if there are any Mary Berrys out there, we would be very grateful for any cake contributions for the cake stall.

Recent events: On 30th January the Gloucestershire Fire Education Service came to visit preschool. During their visit the firemen spoke to the children about fire safety and the children were very excited as they were allowed to explore in the fire engine and start the siren and flashy lights...

Uniform: Don't forget that the preschool uniform is available to buy. The T-shirts are £4 and sweatshirts are £6.50 or you can get a pack of 2 T-shirts and 1 sweatshirt for £13. We also have some canvas bags with the pre-school logo on that cost £1.50.

Communication: All parents should now be receiving communications by email which has really helped reduce preschools costs. Please keep us updated should your address change. Also, all events and news are posted on our facebook page so please 'like' us to keep up to date. As you know, we have been experiencing problems with our phone line. This should be resolved shortly, but the temporary number 07716880451 should still be used for now.

Parent Rotas': The Preschool staff very much appreciate the help given by parents and carers. All our sessions are very busy so if any parents can offer their time, **even just for the last 30 minutes to wash up** it would be a great help to the staff. Please see the rota on the noticeboard or speak to Debra if you have any questions. Preschool also really appreciates parents willing to help with snack shopping and t-towel washing rota, again please speak to Debra if you wish to put your name down.

If you have any queries or problems please speak to Debra or one of her team, pre-school have an open house policy and are always happy for you to come into a session to help out or just observe. You are also more than welcome to talk to any member of the committee.

Tutshill Community Pre-School Committee

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 7th March – World book day, children can dress as their favourite character

Friday 15th March – Red Nose day, children can come dressed in red

Friday 15th March from 11.30 – Preschool bazaar in aid of Comic Relief

Friday 22nd March – Break up for Easter

Saturday 20th April – Preschool Open Morning for prospective children

Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd May – Preschool will be closed

Saturday 22nd June – Preschool Open Morning for prospective children

Remaining Term and Holiday Dates 2013

<p>Spring Term Term Ends</p>	<p>Friday 22nd March</p>
<p>Summer Term Term begins <i>Preschool closed</i> <i>Preschool closed</i> <i>Preschool closed</i> Half term Term ends</p>	<p>Monday 8th April <i>Thursday 2nd May - Elections</i> <i>Friday 3rd May – Inset day</i> <i>Monday 6th May – May day bank holiday</i> Friday 24th May until Friday 31st May Friday 19th July</p>