



Rackerhayes Pre-school

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Charity Number 1017322



January / February 2017 NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year!! We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas and you were all very good and Father Christmas brought you everything you wished for!! We also hope you are all fit and well ☺
We would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new faces both adults and children alike.

Remember - parents and children, on arrival please find your key person who will be stationed in a dedicated area of the setting prior to the children engaging in free flow play. If your child's key person is not in on that day your child can decide an area or adult that they would be happy to start the day with/at – this ensures that all children have quality time with their key person.

Quiz Night – An enjoyable evening was had by all those who attended and we raised £45.50 via ticket price and raffle

Hobbycraft – Thank you to everyone who voted for the Halloween decoration we won a box of crafting materials which Sarah picked up over Christmas.

Christmas Social and Singsong!!

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event (I'm sorry I missed it!!), congratulations to all our winners, we hope you all had fun on the day, and enjoyed the children's singing.

We would like to thank you all for the generous donations that a variety of items for the raffle, and to fill the hampers with. (Any unwanted Christmas gifts suitable for our next fundraiser please think of the Pre-School!!!)

The hamper winners were: 1st Jack, 2nd Toby, 3rd Lara and 4th Jacob. The Christmas cake was won by Jackie. Together you raised £276.02, with the money raised we haven't decided what to purchase yet, but intend to speak to the children and see what they would like to have at the pre-school.

Jane has donated several books, please have a look, all proceeds she has kindly donated to the setting.

Sessions

The pre-school is full and as we have NO children leaving to start school until September 2016, please inform Karen as soon as possible if you no longer require any of your sessions, as she has a waiting list of parents wishing to have additional sessions!!

If you have already booked/reserved your child's sessions these are secure. If you need confirmation of these sessions, please speak to your key person or Karen.

Easyfundraiser

Thank you to those who have shopped online, please tell family and friends as we need more supporters to raise vital funds for new toys and equipment. We have just received our donation of £16.70, we wish it was more – look online and sign up to this easy fundraiser endorsed by the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

Forthcoming Events

Parent Association / Committee.

The next committee meeting will be held on Monday 23rd January 7pm, venue to be confirmed. We are in need more members, please come along to see what's involved, no hard sell, no commitment if you're not happy to join us

Proposed trip – Wednesday 8th March – details to follow

Topic

For the first two weeks to help us all settle back in to the pre-school routine we will be doing lots of painting and gluing, making and creating (messy stuff that's fun and educational!!)

For the first half of the term our topic will be 'Healthy Eating' We expect many of you have made a New Year's Resolution to either lose weight or eat better, so what better time to teach your children about what's good to eat and what's not.

We have photocopied two weeks of healthy lunch box ideas for every child to help you on your way to a healthier year!! ☺

March is mum's month – invitations out soon

Easter Social – Thursday 30th March – Details to follow

Box Day – Friday 31st March – Last day of term

Term dates for 2017

Spring Term

Tuesday 3rd January to Friday 31st March

Half Term = Monday 13th to Friday 17th February.

Summer Term

Tuesday 18th April to Friday 21st July

Half Term Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June

Pre-school CLOSED – Monday 1st May – May Day.

REMINDERS

Illness and Contact Details

If you or your child are ill on the day of their session and they will not be attending, please call to let us know or leave a text message or voicemail on the pre-school mobile 07791867573, if this is more convenient. Thank you. Please note that we do not have internet access at pre-school, therefore emails may not be read until Karen gets home.

Please remember that your child should be free of sickness and diarrhoea for **48 hours** before returning to pre-school.

That reminds me if any of your contact details have changed, if either friends or family or yourselves have moved house or had a new phone, please let us know so we can update your records.

Café / lunch Time

During café and lunch times, we will be promoting milk or water.

The children pour milk or water into open cups. Feedback from courses has highlighted the importance of open cups for speech and language development.

Fees

If you are a paying customer, don't forget to use the payment box. Please put the money in an envelope and write your child's name, the sessions you wish to pay for and the amount inside on the front. Fees can be paid weekly, monthly, half termly or termly, whatever suits your pocket.

If you have a problem paying your fees, please speak to Karen to organise a payment plan. Also, if you would like to pay online please ask for the bank details.

Weather

Please bring appropriate clothing for your children. Coats and warm clothing for when we go out to play!! We do try to get out daily, whatever the weather!! Please label all your children's belongings – hats, backpacks, juice containers, lunch boxes, sweatshirts, coats etc, etc. Staff waste a great deal of time sorting and hunting for labels, to ensure your child has their own coat instead of the one they fancy wearing, etc. etc.!!

Lunch Club

We would like to advise you to put ice packs into your child's lunch box and that the lunch box is insulated. If you would like anything refrigerated please ask a member of staff, we want to keep your child's lunch as fresh as possible.

Please remember when packing your child's lunch – NO nuts or sweets – thank you.

Please put a spoon in your child's lunch box, if they need one.

Name Cards

Don't forget to remind, or help your child to find their name cards to 'self register'. These name cards are also a 'ticket' into the café! and those staying to lunch also need to display their name cards on the lunch club board.

New children will make appropriate name cards on their first session. Thank you.

Thank you, for taking the time to read this newsletter!