



Rackerhayes Pre-school

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Charity Number 1017322



November / December 2016 NEWSLETTER

We hope you had an enjoyable half term break. We would also like to welcome our new starters to the pre-school, at this busy time of year.

As a setting we like to challenge your children and promote creativity, critical thinking and problem solving, if you have any ideas on how to improve our service please speak to Karen or Jackie, even better join the committee and have an impact on your pre-school.

Online Shopping – Make money for pre-school at no cost to yourself!!

Doing your Christmas shopping online, or just spoiling yourself!?!? Please shop via easyfundraising.org.uk even better download the reminder toolbar or get the app. Every time you shop or search online you will have the choice to make a donation to your pre-school ☺ or not ☹. Over 2,700 retailers are involved in this scheme making donations on your behalf. Please support your pre-school!! You also receive notifications of promotions and exclusive deals!! So sign up now ☺

Weather

Please bring appropriate clothing for your children, we still venture outside whatever the weather, even though we have use of our outside classroom it will still get cold in the winter months.

Can you make sure that your child's possessions are all labelled, we have several children not knowing which coat belongs to them, or deciding on a coat they would prefer to wear!! Also, we have children bringing the same lunch box and eating something that they are not allowed!! Thank you for your help in this matter.

FEES/SESSIONS

If you are a paying customer, please ensure you have made a payment towards your sessions this term, if you are unsure what you owe or would like to know your balance, please speak to Karen. If you are struggling to pay and would like to set up a payment plan, again please speak to Karen before your bill escalates.

If you have not already reserved sessions or would like to change your child's sessions for the rest of the academic year, up to July 2018, now is the time to do so please speak to Karen.

Forthcoming Events

Halloween - 31st October – Tuesday children – please arrive in your Halloween costumes!!!

TEMPEST – Wednesday 1st November 8.30 to 11. Please note change of date. If it is your child's normal session, please bring them at their usual time and we will ensure they have their photograph taken. Everyone welcome, even if it's not your child's session. The photographer uses the small room on the left in the entrance foyer. An ideal Christmas Present for your family.

Children in Need Week – 13th to 17th November, please come dressed in spots and please donate to this worthy cause. Thank you.

Rhyme Challenge - Thursday 16th November – I hope you and your child have been practicing the songs and have completed the permission slip and membership forms. (Thursday children only)

Committee – The next committee meeting – the AGM will be held on
Thursday 16th November 7pm at the Pre-school

Please come along and support your pre-school, even if you are unsure whether you would like to join the committee or not!! It's an ideal time to meet staff, committee and other parents

Christmas is coming – aghhhhhhhhhhhhh!!!!

Christmas Social – Wednesday 6th December

Invitations and hamper squares distributed separately. We are hoping to raise funds to enable us to purchase resources to enhance the small world areas inside and out and also bug homes.

Christmas Hampers

As in previous years we will be collecting items for our Christmas hampers to raffle off during the social. Please donate something to help fill the hampers for some lucky people to win, you never know it could be you!! A list of suggestions and ideas will be displayed in the entrance foyer.

We are not asking you to spend a vast amount of money – if everyone brought in one or two items this would be a worthwhile prize to win. Thank you

Christmas Trip – Tuesday 12th December – please read and respond by 24th November

Christmas Party – Thursday 14th December

Invitations distributed separately!! Please see the list of party food we need to feed the children on the day and we are asking you to come in through the kitchen door and leave by the front door, on this day so you can drop the food off on your way through ☺ – thank you

We have purchased presents for all the children attending pre-school, we struggled to find presents for our two-year olds that stated 'unsuitable for children under 36 months' we feel that they are suitable for your children but if you are concerned please speak to Karen or Jackie

Term dates for 2017/2018

Autumn Term

Monday 4th September to Friday 15th December

Half Term = Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October.

Spring Term

Thursday 4th January to Wednesday 28th March

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

Summer Term

Monday 16th April to Monday 23rd July (Tuesday 24th July – leavers ceremony)

Half Term Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June

Pre-school Closed – Monday 7th May – May Day.

REMINDERS

Café / lunch Time

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. The pre-school did have spare spoons, but they seem to have disappeared!! If your child drinks milk or water with their lunch, we will provide this. Thank you

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 pay online, please use your child's name as the payment reference.

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 on a daily basis, whatever the weather!! Please label all your children's possessions – 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.!!

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. Please do this before delivering your child to their key person!!!

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

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. Staff are at the setting from 8.30am or you could leave a text message or voicemail on the pre-school mobile, if this is more convenient. Thank you.

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 phones, please let us know so we can update your records.

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

Karen

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

From Karen, staff and the pre-school committee