



# Rackerhayes Pre-school

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www.rackerhayespreschool.org

Charity Number 1017322



## January / February 2018 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.

### **Christmas Social and Singsong!!**

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event, 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 used in the raffle. (Any unwanted Christmas gifts suitable for our next fundraiser please think of the Pre-School!!!)

The hamper winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> Jacob H, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joshua, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sienna and the toy hamper was won by George. The Christmas cake was also won by George. Together you raised £271.79, with the money raised we will purchase resources to enhance our role play and small world areas.

### **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. Also, we have spaces available throughout the year so if you wish to increase your child's hours please speak to Karen, our afternoon sessions are particularly quiet at the moment so if you require more hours now is the time to book them. If you know of anyone looking for a setting, please promote the Pre-School.

### **School Admissions**

If your child was born before 31/08/2014 make sure you have applied for their school placement by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January. [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline). Any queries call the Educational Helpline on 0345 155 1019

### **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. Look online and sign up to this easy fundraiser endorsed by the Pre-school Learning Alliance. You will also receive promotional offers for your favourite retail outlets.

### **Forthcoming Events**

Parent Association / Committee.

The next committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 7pm, at the Ten Tors. We are in need of more members, please come along to see what's involved, no hard sell, no commitment if you're not happy to join us, don't!!

**Trip** – Provisional date Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> 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 healthier, so what better time to educate your children about what's good to eat and what's not.

We will also be teaching the children on where food comes from, how it grows and what people eat around the world to tie in with this topic.

**March is mum's month** – invitations out soon

**Easter Social** – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Details to follow

## Term dates for 2017

### **Spring Term**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January to Wednesday 28<sup>st</sup> March

Half Term = Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Summer Term**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Half Term Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Pre-school CLOSED – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May – May Day.

Leavers Ceremony Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June – Details to follow.

## **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!