



## Information

**Happy New Year** to all our children and a special hello to all our new starters! 2013 is a special year for Pre-School as we are celebrating being registered for over **40 successful years!**

This term we are promoting **sensory awareness** with lots of opportunities to explore and experiment with sight, sound, taste, touch and smell.

Your child's **key person** (named at the front of their Learning Journey in their book folder) will help your child to become settled, happy and safe. They are responsible for your child's care, development and learning, taking a careful note of your child's progress, sharing this with you and giving you ideas as to how to help your child at home.

**Please talk to them as often as possible** about any questions you may have, what your child has been doing, what they have enjoyed and what you can do at home.

80% of parents have signed up to receive newsletters, invoices and information by **email**. To help us reduce costs and care for our environment please provide your email address to staff.

It is fantastic to see new parent/carer helpers. Please add your name to the parent/carer **helper rota** on the cloakroom notice board and see first hand how much your little one enjoys Pre-School. A current CRB check is required, forms are available free of charge, please ask.

Children are provided with a selection of healthy snacks during morning and afternoon sessions. As a registered charity and to keep costs down please can we kindly ask parents/carers to bring a **healthy snack item** on the first session your child attends each week.

## Important Dates

**Committee Meeting Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 7.30-9.30pm** at The Duke of York, Stainland, please join us. Welcome our newest member Bernadette (William's Mum). If you are unable to attend meetings, but can offer any skills to Pre-School please speak to a staff/committee member.

**Uniform Order forms** and brochures are available daily in the hall. If you would like to place an order please return a form with payment before 31<sup>st</sup> January.



**Invoices** are sent via email/book folders in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of term. Please pay promptly within 2 weeks or monthly by 1<sup>st</sup> February with the final payment by 1<sup>st</sup> March.

## Save the Date - further details to follow!

**70's Night** with live 9 piece band and disco, 9<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm  
**Sponsored Toddle & Easter Egg Hunt** Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 10am

## Close

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February (3pm)

Please view: [www.sowoodpreschool.org](http://www.sowoodpreschool.org) for full holiday dates

## Re-open

Monday 25<sup>h</sup> February

## Last Term

Thank you to everyone who attended our **Christmas sing-a-long** where children showcased their delightful festive songs!

Congratulations to staff who gained Steps to Quality One in Calderdale's **Quality Assurance Scheme** and are now working towards step 2.

**Welcome Sarah Smith** to the team, Sarah has many years of experience working in Early Years, please say hello! We also wish Nicola all the very best in her new role.

## Reminders

Our children love to play and explore, we provide protective clothing for messy activities and have a stock of all weather suits to allow your child to access all areas of learning comfortably, but request the support of parents and carers to ensure that children are **suitably dressed for the season**, including clearly labelled gloves, hats and wellington boots in winter.

**Please check your child's book bag at the end of each day** for information/notices and collect your child's belongings, prior to picking your child up promptly at 3pm.



If your child has been prescribed **antibiotics or after sickness**, diarrhoea or infection please keep them at home for 48 hours or until they are well before returning to Pre-School to prevent spreading infection.

For **security** please can we ask that on entry to Pre-School you do not hold the door open for others to enter. If a staff member is not in the entrance please press the buzzer, so we can greet you to let you in.

**Sowood Toddler Group** welcomes you to stay and play **Wednesdays 9.30-11.30am in term time**, we are a small friendly group for babies and toddlers, £2 per child including snack time, 50p for each additional child (free under 6 months/first visit),