



## **Spring Term Newsletter**

### **Children's News**

Happy New Year to you all, and hope you all had a lovely Christmas!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the children who have joined us this term, they have all settled in really well 😊

We have a great display in the hall of the children enjoying different activities so far this term, we have had dressing up and weddings, finger painting and discussing teeth cleaning and water play to name a few! We have been learning about and celebrating the Chinese New Year. Our noticeboard is updated weekly, and their Learning Journeys.

- We have a new menu for this term, all meals are prepared and cooked by Rachel in our kitchen (and they're delicious!!) We encourage healthy eating throughout preschool. If your child brings in a packed lunch please make sure they have a balance of nutritious food in their lunchbox.

Visit <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes> for ideas!

- Your child does most of their learning at home and we'd love to hear about it! We have sent out some 'WOW' sheets for you to record your child's achievements at home and bring in to share with us.
- In the entrance hall there is a mark-making area for the children to sign themselves in, this may be

### **Fundraising**

- Our Christmas Sing-a-long was a great afternoon; we think you'll all agree the children were brilliant in their performance. Thank you to everyone who contributed raffle prizes, cakes and supported us, we raised just over £300 for Preschool.

If you have any ideas for future fundraising events, and would like to get involved please speak to a member of staff.

### **Preschool News**

- We welcome Paris Dunnett who is on work placement with us from Brooksbank School for 2 weeks.
- If you are a member of Facebook, please like and share our page 'Sowood Preschool'. We often use this platform to update parents about holidays/opening times and activities we have been doing. If your child enjoys being at Preschool you can write a review on our page to let others know what you think. This can also be done on our Google Business page Sowood Preschool & Community Association.

We are urgently seeking more parents to join the group, as we are a charity and need our committee to operate! If you are interested email [admin@sowoodpreschool.org](mailto:admin@sowoodpreschool.org) or speak to Tracy or Jo.

### **Session Times and Fees**

Invoices for January have been sent out. If you have not received the email and need a printed copy speak to Tracy. Please remember that we are a charity so politely request that payments are made in a timely manner. Persistent non-payment of invoices will result in your child's place being withdrawn.

To find out if your child will be eligible for the 30 hours funding & Tax free Childcare to help with the costs see [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

## **Preschool Holiday dates**

Close: **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019** and re-open **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019**.

A full list of 2018/2019 term time dates can be seen on the Preschool cloakroom notice board.

## **Important Information**

### **Absences**

Please ensure you contact us **by telephone before 9:15am** if your child will not be coming to preschool, or will be in late. If you are on holiday please let us know at least the week before so we can update our records. If we do not receive a call we follow our **First Day Calling Procedure** which involves calling all contacts until we get a response. If we get no response the Police would be called as a last resort. This has been set out by Calderdale Council Safeguarding Board. For funded children – if attendance drops below a satisfactory level due to absence then your child's free entitlement is at risk and you may be asked to refund the relevant amount of funding.

### **Late collection**

Please ensure your child is collected promptly at the end of their agreed session.

### **Snacks**

We kindly ask for donations for our snack table each week, this helps to keep our costs down. We have a list of suggestions on the cloakroom noticeboard or you could donate £1.

### **Outdoor play**

We use our outdoor facilities whenever we can, in all weathers (and you know it is always windy up here!) We do have a few waterproof coats, wellies and hats/gloves but please make sure your child has appropriate clothing with them.

### **Spare clothing & Nappies**

Please ensure your child has some spare clothes on their peg and plenty of nappies if required. If your child is potty training let us know and we can give them support.

If you have borrowed any of our spare clothing please wash and return as soon as possible as we are in short supply, especially socks and pants.

Many Thanks for your continued support,  
Preschool Staff