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## Newsletter September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

A big welcome back to you all, we hope you have all had a lovely summer break and we welcome the new children into the nursery and the children moving up into the pre-school room.

### **Fundraising**

We have decided not to do the Webb Ivory this year due to the lack of interest last year. Our Summer Fun Day saw us raise £600 which is fantastic, we were all a little apprehensive at first as only a few parents donated bottles and brought raffle tickets but the day turned out to be a success with lots of you coming to join in the day of fun. This money added to our other fundraising money will help to us to buy some new resources for the children. The staff have many ideas to help enrich the learning of your children and without your support this will be not be possible. So thank you to all that currently help us and keep up the good work. We will keep you posted on what we spend the money on.

We would appreciate your help in donating any unwanted items that you have such as old roof tiles, plant pots, plastic guttering and piping, straw, pieces of wood, old kitchen items, tyres etc. We are hoping to give our bug hotel a makeover, add to our mud kitchens and use these items in our getting back to nature days.

### **Policies**

All policies remain the same. Please see the policy files in individual rooms if you wish to take a look at any of these.

### **Staff Training and Development**

Becci has updated her knowledge in safeguarding, completing Level 4 Designated Lead/Person Training. Laura will be updating her safeguarding training this month and completing a short webinar on mathematical development. We are also looking at some other webinar courses for other staff to complete.

We are also looking at improving the nursery and the outcomes for the children through completing Excellence through Reflection which is run by the Pre-School Learning Alliance. This is broken up into 4 modules and requires a lot of hard work, commitment and dedication by all the staff at Pathways.

## **Holidays**

Some staff have one or two days booked off over this half term. Their keyworker children will not be forgotten and other staff will be on hand to assist you and work with your children in their absence.

Our holiday letter for October will be out later in this half term.

## **News**

As some of you may already know Kathryn's little bundle of joy arrived on the 16<sup>th</sup> June, she decided to name her little girl Arabella and both are doing well.

Can we please remind all parents that mobile phones are prohibited from use inside the nursery and that children are also not allowed phones in nursery. Any mobiles that children bring in will be kept safe by a staff member until they leave for home. We will not answer the door if we see you on your mobile; this is to safeguard all children in our care.

Due to children leaving us to start school and some nursery children moving up, the start of term is a little quiet so some days we will be joined. However we will not compromise on the children's safety or their learning in anyway and as soon as numbers pick up we will resume as normal. The staff will let you know where we are and Becci or Laura will be on hand if you have any concerns. The following activities will re-commence for nursery and pre-school children as follows:

- Monday - fortnightly visits from our physical man who teaches the children a wide range of educational physical skills - 2 years and up
- Tuesday - getting back to nature, please bring in spare clothes and wellies as we will be outdoors - all children
- Thursday - we are offering a new fortnightly session Boogie Beats, a trained lady will come in to teach the children a range of skills through singing, actions and listening. We had a trial before the holidays and this proved really exciting to the children, they loved it and had so much fun - all children. Alternate Thursday's we will visit the library.
- Friday - cooking - pre-school

Please remember these activities are paid for by Pathways and are at no extra cost to yourselves.

If you or your children have any ideas for the after-school care then please let Leanne know, she will be taking over this role in the absence of Kathryn.

We are currently looking for new trustee members. If you are interested in becoming a trustee for Pathways please speak to Becci or Laura and we can explain more about this vital role.

We will be holding our Grandparents day on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 1.30-3.00, we welcome all grandparents or family members into the nursery to come and enjoy an afternoon of fun with their grandchild. All children are welcome.

### **Important Dates**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September** - funding begins

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September** - grandparent's afternoon 1.30-3.00

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October** - funding ends

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> October** - half term

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October** - funding begins and Halloween party for all children, please let a member of staff know if you would like to swap your day or add on an extra day.

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November** - Paolo Laraso photographs - all welcome

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - parent afternoon/concert

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas party for all children

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** - funding ends

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> December** - nursery open for anyone that needs care