



NEWS LETTER
From the Staff of Yateley Community Preschool
January 2011
Registered Charity No. 298231

Welcome back after the Christmas break, we hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all. Thank you very much for all your cards and gifts.

We would like to welcome all our new families to Pre-School and hope you enjoy your time with us.

The idea of the staff news letter is to keep parents up to date with topics planned over the forth coming term and to feed back information about activities your children may have been involved in. Also from time to time we may have requests for help, this will vary from asking parents to come in and read during book week or simple tasks such as saving items needed for specific activities.

Last half term we covered the topics – Bonfire Night / Divali, Autumn/ Harvest and Thanksgiving, Space, Dinosaurs and Christmas. Dinosaur week was a roaring success! Everyone enjoyed Christmas, except I'm sure the cleaner, by the end of each day our floor was rather sparkly! The party went well, many thanks to the committee who organized the event and those that stayed to help on the day.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE BUILDING WORK STARTS THIS HALF TERM NO CARS MUST BE DRIVEN INTO THE SCHOOL GROUNDS. Thank you

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THAT IF YOU NEED TO GIVE YOUR CHILD CALPOL OR ANY MEDICINE BEFORE YOU BRING THEM TO PRE-SCHOOL THEY SHOULD NOT BE THERE IN CASE THEY HAVE AN INFECTION THAT COULD BE PASSED ON TO OTHERS. A HIGH TEMPERATURE IN THE NIGHT MAY BE THE START OF AN ILLNESS PLEASE PLEASE THINK TWICE BEFORE BRINGING YOUR CHILD IN. IF YOUR CHILD HAS A SICKNESS BUG THEN IT IS 48 HOURS AFTER THE LAST BOUT OF ILLNESS. Thank you

Our topics for this term are as follows:-

Week commencing Tuesday 4th January – Winter, Colour Blue and letter Nn

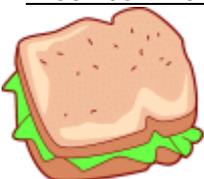
We could do with some cold, snowy weather for this week! Mmm think we have seen enough snow. We will be talking about different winter weather, temperatures, and the clothes we need to wear for different conditions.



Week commencing Monday 10th January – Senses, Colour Purple and letter Oo

We will be discussing our five senses through games and activities. Picture of eyes, ears etc... for collage would be good if you don't mind cutting them out.

Week commencing 17th January – Cooking, Healthy and Unhealthy eating, Colour Brown and letter Pp



This is always a hard topic to get the children to comprehend, if they like something it must be HEALTHY even if its sweets, we will try! Whilst you are browsing through magazines we would be grateful of any pictures of food for the collage table, if you could cut them out even better. We will be making a poster of healthy and unhealthy food.

Week commencing 24th January – Music Colour Yellow and letter



This is likely to be a noisy week! If anyone plays the guitar and would like to come in and sing with the children, we would love to see you.

Also anyone that plays an instrument would be welcome at registration time to play to the children. We will be making some basic instruments, if anyone has any small plastic containers with lids, film pots are a good size (not that many people use film these days!), we could make use of them. Tissue boxes would be useful as well please.

Week commencing 31st January Chinese New Year colour Red and letter Rr

What do you know about Chinese New Year?

The old Chinese calendar is based on the movement of the moon and each time a new moon appears, then a new month begins. This means that the Chinese year is 10 days shorter than a Western year. The date of the Chinese New Year changes every year, but always falls between 2nd Jan. and 20th Feb. Each Chinese year carries the name of an animal. According to the legend, there were 12 animals, a rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, ram, monkey, cockerel, dog and pig. They wanted every year to be named after an animal, but they all wanted to go first. The animals argued which one of them should go first, finally the Gods decided that they should all cross a river and the first animal across would have the first year named after him. The animals all swam across the river, but the rat that was clever, climbed onto the ox's back (the strongest swimmer of them all) and hitched a ride. Once the ox reached the riverbank, the rat jumped down and claimed he was the winner! So the first year was known as the year of the rat.

2011 is the year of the Rabbit

We will have a display of Chinese lanterns, dragons, money envelopes and writing, we will also have a friendly dragon hanging from the ceiling – a symbol of goodness and strength. During the week activities will be based around Chinese New Year, to include lanterns, blossom trees (Moyeefa), lucky money envelopes (Ang Pow), dragons and hats.

We would also like to give the children the opportunity to try different food like noodles and prawn crackers. Please let us know if your child **cannot** have these to eat, **some of these foods do contain traces of nuts** etc... We will have a Chinese Restaurant/Take away, any menu leaflets you can get hold of would be useful. If you buy any shop Chinese food over the next few weeks, please save the cardboard packaging with the picture on, go on dads, treat the mums!

Often around this time shops like Waitrose and Co-op etc... have free magazines with **very useful pictures to cut out!**

Kung Hey Fat Choy to you all

Week commencing 7th February Recycling Colour White and letter Ss

This week we will be talking all about what we can recycle and where we recycle.

Week commencing 14th February Weather Colour Grey and letter Tt

We shall talk about the different weather conditions we have to live with and how to dress for each.

Week commencing 21st February - HALF TERM

We are planning ahead to next half term's activities, we will be in need of long wrapping paper tubes. Also labels from cat or dog food, and pictures of animals for our collage table.

Our topics for after February half term are as follows – Zoo and jungle animals and St David's day, pets and farm animals, water creatures / Water, Mathematics and pattern in everyday life / St Patrick's day Spring and Easter. If any parents would like to contribute to any of these topics or have any curriculum advice to offer we would be only too pleased to have your input. Please speak to a member of staff.

We are always in need of newspapers, especially the large tabloid to cover our tables and can always use buttons, sparkly material etc... for collage, we can recycle most things. If you bring in boxes etc.. for junk modelling, please make sure they are clean, with no traces of food still in them especially nut traces, thank you.

As the cold weather is with us, please make sure your child has a named coat so that we can go outside. If your child wears Wellington's to pre-school please ensure that they are named and your child has a change of shoes. We will be going outside whatever the weather each session, we have a few spare pairs of Wellington's – but not all sizes, so please if you wish your child to put them on to go outside, could you provide their own and make sure a member of staff knows they must wear them. If for any reason you do not want your child to go outside – maybe has been unwell, please let us know. Thank you.

Red Bag

For new families a little explanation of our red bag. We have a red letter bag that is circulated on a rota. All we ask is for you to find a few items around the house with your child that start with the letter or sound of the label on the bag. The contents are looked at with the help of your child at registration and we discuss the letter and sound.. We also have a colour bag, where you find items of the colour on the label.

A list of key persons and their allocated children are on the notice board, if you would like to arrange to speak to your child's key person about how your child is settling in please feel free to arrange this at a convenient time to them and you. If any parents would like to contribute information about their child's interests, needs, activities and learning at home, again please speak to your child's key person.

Reminders

The school outdoor equipment is NOT supposed to be used by our children, please respect the school rules. As staff we are the ones that get told off!! Children have been using it and falling off, we are not insured if there is an accident.

If weather conditions deteriorate and we have lots of snow like last year, then please ring 07896247220 after 7.30am to find out if we are opening that day, alternatively we will try and update our website www.yateleycpreschool.hampshire.org.uk We will have a problem this year as there is no caretaker and it will be up to us to clear the school paths! If it is necessary to dig our way in, any offers of help would be good, it could be a lengthy job!

Finally, if you have any concerns about your child at pre-school or any queries, however trivial they may seem, please come in and speak to Janet, Jennie, or your child's key person, your child's happiness is important to us.

