**St James’ Pre-School Newsletter**

**January 2018**

**Welcome to our January edition of the Newsletter.**

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**Thank you to everyone for your fantastic support over the Christmas period.**

The Christmas Bazaar was a huge success, raising £772.16. Thank you to all the committee members and parents who helped in many ways to create such an enjoyable and profitable event. And thank you to everyone who dug deep to buy cakes, toys, books, raffle tickets and much more on the day.

St James’ Pre-School relies on fundraising events and activities so your support is vital and very much appreciated.

**Parents Afternoon**

We will be holding our Parent’s Afternoon on **Friday 26th January from 1pm to 3pm** so please remember to book an appointment with your child’s Key Person as soon as you can. You will be able to look through your child’s Learning Journey folder and chat about their progress.

We hope you can come along and we look forward to seeing you then.

**Staffing changes**

Ann Thomas, who works in our kitchen preparing children’s snacks and making welcome drinks for parents in the Parent and Toddler room, will be leaving us at the end of this half term. Ann has been working with us for 26 years and her loyal and reliable service will be much missed in the kitchen on a daily basis and at fundraising events.

On behalf of the governing body, staff and parents and children, past and present, we would like to say a massive **thank you**. Ann finishes on Friday 9th February and we would like to take this opportunity to wish her well in the future as she enjoys a very well deserved retirement with her family and friends.

**The governing body have made some changes to our staffing structure:**

Elaine Hibbert will now be working in the kitchen, preparing healthy snacks for the children in Pre-School and Parent and Toddler. Rest assured that the children will continue to enjoy her friendly greeting at registration in the mornings!

Deb Nichols will be our Pre-School manager and Marion Taylor will be the Pre-School deputy manager.

We are currently in the process of recruiting a new member of staff and will let you know when an appointment has been made. In the meantime, all the children will be well supported by our current staff as they play and learn together.

**Fundraising News**

St James’ Pre-School is a non-profit organisation with charity status and we rely heavily on fundraising activities and events which are always generously supported by our parents. With this in mind, we are aware that some employers can offer to match funding raised by charitable organisations (Barclays, Halifax etc.) so if you think this is something your employer may be able to offer, please let us know.

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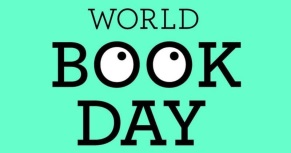
**Spring Disco**

We will be holding a fundraising disco on **Friday 9th February from 12.15 pm until 1.30pm**.

Children can wear their own party clothes to Pre-School for the day. Tickets priced £2 will be on sale shortly as well as raffle tickets for many fabulous prizes. The children will be entertained by Woody and refreshments will be available.

Any donations of cakes would be very welcome and these can be brought along to Pre-School on the morning of the disco.

If you are available to help at the Disco or to sell raffle tickets in the queue at the end of the morning, please let Deb know. We would be very grateful for any help.



We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day with the children which, this year, will be held on

**Thursday 1st March**.

Children are invited to attend Pre-School that day dressed as their favourite character from a book.

 **Paying fees**

When paying any fees, please place money in an **envelope** with your child’s name and what the payment is for written on the envelope. Envelopes are available at the desk, so please feel free to take one. If possible, please also try to provide the correct money as change is not always available. Thank you for your help.

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**Dates for your diary**

* **Parent’s Afternoon** - Friday 26th January between 1pm and 3pm

* **Spring Disco** - Friday 9th February between 12.15pm and 1.30pm
* Pre-School closes for **Half Term** on Friday 9th February (after the disco) and the children return on Monday 19th February
* **World Book Day** – Thursday 1st March
* **Easter Hat Parade** – Friday 23rd March (more information will follow in our next newsletter)

The Governors and staff team would like to thank you for reading this newsletter.

St James’ Pre-School

*A non-profit organisation*

*Charity number 1160127*

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