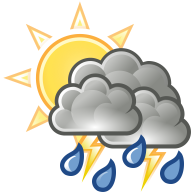
**St James’ Pre-School Newsletter**

**September 2018**

We would like to welcome all of our children to St James’ Pre-School at the start of a new pre-school year. The new children are settling in well and beginning to learn our routines and children returning after the summer break have been friendly and welcoming.

Well done and thank you to everyone. It has been a great start to the year!

**Morning Registration**

May we ask for your help at this busy time of the morning.

When paying 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.

As you will know, a Church project is well under way to refurbish the hall building to make it a brighter and more welcoming space. The children are enjoying using the new toilets and watching changes in the sky and weather through the new clear glass windows in the Main Hall. Thank you for your patience and cooperation while the building work is continuing. At present, we are asking parents of children in the Green and Blue groups to exit through the Main Hall doors following registration. You can report any changes in collection arrangements to staff on this door. Please rest assured that, while work is being carried out, safeguarding will always be our priority.

**Uniform**

The children all look very smart in their pre-school uniforms. Please make sure that all items of clothing and pump bags are clearly labelled with your child’s name so that we can ensure that they are returned at the end of the morning. Thank you.

**Supporting your child’s learning at home**

We would like to tell you about some useful resources to help develop your child’s speech, language and communication skills at home. Talking, listening and understanding are vital skills that all children need in order to reach their full potential.

[www.talkingpoint.org.uk](http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk) provides information on children’s communication, including a progress checker.

[www.wordsforlife.org.uk](http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk) is the National Literacy Trust’s website for parents where you can find tips and activities for supporting pre-school learning at home, including resources you can download.

There is some really useful guidance on your child’s learning and development across all curriculum areas in the early years foundation stage in a document from the Department of Education called **What to expect, when?** which is available on our website and at [www.4Children.org.uk](http://www.4Children.org.uk)

**Response to Parents’ Questionnaire July 2018**

Following a Parents’ Questionnaire sent out in July, 2018, two matters were put before our pre-school committee:

* The possibility of opening earlier had been suggested by two parents. This was discussed at the committee meeting; both the possible demand from parents and the financial implications were considered. It was decided not to implement any changes at present, but if you have any views on the matter please talk to Deb or Marion. Opening earlier is something we might consider in future if there is enough demand from parents.
* It was decided that an outdoor shelter will not be built outside at present. We are limited in what changes we can make outside by being within a conservation area.

Thank you again for your responses to our questionnaire which were overwhelmingly positive, supportive and constructive.

**Annual General Meeting**

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting in the church on **Thursday 11th October at 8pm**. We are a committee run group and we rely on parental support and involvement. If you would like to find out more about joining our Governing Body please do come along. This is a great way to become more involved with pre-school life. We are also looking for help with fundraising, so if you are able to volunteer to help out at our fundraising events, or if you have any ideas for raising money, we would love to hear from you. More information will be available shortly.

St James’ Pre-School is a registered charity and in the past we have been fortunate to have our fundraising efforts matched by some of our local banks and companies. If this is something you and your employer can help with, please do let Deb know.

C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\97R8GEBX\MC900391024[1].wmf**Autumn Fundraising Disco**

St James’ Pre-School is a non-profit organisation and we rely heavily on fundraising events which are held throughout the year. We will be holding our Autumn Fundraising Disco on **Friday 19th October from 12.15 to 1.30 p.m**. The children will be entertained by Woody with a disco. Refreshments and lunch will be available. Tickets costing £2.00 will be on sale shortly.

We will be selling **cakes** on the day so we would be grateful for any donations! These can be brought into Pre-School on the morning of the disco. Thank you in anticipation.

**Photographer visit** We will be arranging a visit from our photographer during November. Photographs will be on sale at Pre-School shortly afterwards. We will let you know the date as soon as it has been finalised.

**Important change in term dates**

Due to our entertainer Woody’s busy festive schedule, our Christmas Party will now take place on **Wednesday 19th December and term will end on this day**. Children should now return to Pre-School on **Monday 7th January 2019**. The amended term dates are attached and are also available on the website. We are sorry for any inconvenience this might cause.

C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\6V97BXP1\MC900239415[1].wmf**Dates for your Diary**

* Annual General Meeting **Thursday 11th October** at **8.00 p.m.**
* Autumn Fundraising Disco: **Friday 19th October** from **12.15 to 1.30 p.m**.
* Pre-School closes for **HALF TERM** on **Friday 19th October** and the children return on **Tuesday 30th October**
* Staff Training Day: **Monday 29th October** – Pre-School will be closed.
* **CHRISTMAS PARTY AND END OF TERM**: **Wednesday 19h December**.
* Children return to Pre-School on **Monday 7th January 2019**

Deb, Marion and all the staff team would like to thank you for reading this newsletter!

St James’ Pre-School Woolton Ltd *A non-profit organisation*

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