



Post Office Road, Woodham Mortimer,
Essex CM9 6SX

www.woodhammortimerpreschool.org.uk
woodhammortimerpre-school@hotmail.com
Tel: 07742 228077

Newsletter – April 2013

Welcome New Starters

A big welcome to Harry McGuinness, Henry Buckle and Madeleine Kitchen who join us this term; we wish the children and their families happy times with us.

Parent Questionnaire

Thank you for responding to the parent questionnaire. The staff and committee are very proud of our Pre-School but it is lovely to hear the parents are too. We would like to share some of the lovely comments you made;

"Fun and social interaction with other children in a caring environment"

"My child [is] looked after and cared for in a fun, friendly learning environment"

"A safe educational environment where my child is happy and learning"

"The Pre-School has helped our child so much with her development skills and has prepared her for school. The staff all work very hard. Thank you."

"The Pre-School does an amazing job at helping children learn and develop as well as having a fantastic open relationship with parents so concerns, learning issues etc can be dealt with effectively with input from both home and Pre-School"

"I had such fun today Mummy"

"Couldn't be happier with Woodham Mortimer Pre-School. It's fantastic. I would recommend to anyone with pre-school age children. The staff are excellent. They go above and beyond and are happy, funny, approachable and knowledgeable."

Feedback on Events

Thank you to everyone who has supported and enjoyed all our recent events. As the Pre-School is a charity it is essential we raise funds for the basics as well as the extras our children will enjoy.

The Disco raised nearly £200.

The Easter Stay and Play nearly £100.

The Easter Baskets £130.

The Jumble Sale nearly £800.

Some of the money raised will be used to buy a specialised CD player and multiple headphones to create a listening corner as well as some maths games, play food, utensils, dolls and some new puzzles.

I hope you can see how all the hard work of fundraising directly improves our children's experiences at the Pre-School.

Easter Bonnet Church service

Thank you to all who attended the Easter Bonnet Service at the Church. We enjoyed listening to Reverend Stephanie tell the story of Easter and then had a fabulous time decorating Easter Cakes. The children then had a drink and a biscuit and were free to wander round the church and have a look at the display they had contributed to at Pre-School.



Red Nose Day

The staff and children enjoyed wearing their red noses and pyjamas all day and raised £16 towards Comic Relief. Thank you.



Upcoming Dates For Your Diary

Thurs, 2 nd May	Pre-School closed – Polling Day and Inset Staff Training.
27 th – 31 st May	Half term.
10 th – 14 th June	Dads' week – if there are any dads available to visit let us know.
Sat, 22 nd June	Summer Fete.
Wed, 10 th July	Sports Day – more details to follow soon.
Thurs, 18 th July	Leavers Party & Presentation & Last Day of Summer term

See the calendar on our website for up to date information and all 2013 term dates.

Summer Fete & Craft Fair

Now we have finished rummaging through jumble our next and biggest event is The Summer Fete & Craft Fair.

It is **Saturday 22nd June 11.30 – 3pm.**

We were really grateful to receive so many pledges of support for the Pre-School in your responses to the questionnaires, in particular for our fundraising events. These are vital to keep the Pre-School running. Can I remind all parents that we are currently organising our Summer Fete and would be grateful for any help either in the organisation but in particular on the day. Please speak to Sara Day (Grace's mum) or Sally Kitchen (Isaac's mum) who already have a list of jobs to do!

We will shortly be handing out books of raffle tickets which we would really appreciate for you to sell as many as you can as the raffle money raised makes up a big portion of the total and is vital if the weather is against us.

There will also be a list of things to donate nearer the event, again the less we have to buy the more profit we make. So please sign up and donate what you can.

We have quite a lot of local crafts people and businesses who are having a stall at the fete but would like to ask parents if they know of anyone else who might like to have one. Either email the Pre-School with details or speak to Sara Day or Sally Kitchen.

The 'Think About It' House

Lorraine and the staff were busy in the Easter holidays giving the Pre-School a well needed spring clean and sort out. They were able to condense the equipment into 2 sheds leaving the third shed to be turned into a Thinking House for the children to enjoy.

Inside the house are a large range of objects to promote the children's independence and thinking skills. They are encouraged to use their imaginations, work together and develop problem solving skills.

It has been a brilliant success and the children have shown some amazing skills in planning and using their ideas to create things such as dens, garages,

obstacle courses and vehicles, it has been lovely to see them working together on large scale projects so cooperatively.

The New Fence

As you may have seen we now have a new temporary fence up around the outside play area. Although we have put up the fencing for added safety the children will still have our wonderful field to play on. We know the field is a great asset to us and the enjoyment the children get from it, now we can always be certain that they are adequately and safely supervised at all times.

We would like to give a mention to Lorraine's dad, Sid, who generously gave up his time over the Easter holidays to organise ground fixings for the temporary fencing.

Change of Departure

We will be trialling a change to the end of session pick up on a Tuesday and Thursday PM sessions. We would like to ask that parents wait outside the main door at the usual time where a member of staff will bring your child to you, with their belongings. This will help them in their preparation for going to school and alleviate the congestion at the end of session. Parents are more than welcome to discuss anything with staff when they drop off in the morning or arrange a convenient time to have a chat.

Reminders

Please apply sun screen to your child before their session. If they are staying all day we can reapply some in the afternoon. Do let us know if your child is allergic to it and if so please provide your own in your child's bag and let us know. They will also need a named sun hat.

Please not to park on the road not only are you putting the children at risk you may cause damage to your vehicle. A committee member pulled onto the curb the other week and got a puncture. Use our car park as it is much safer, first to arrive should roll back the barrier!

If you shop on line please do consider registering at the easyfundraising website and supporting Woodham Mortimer Pre-School. See our website for how to do it – it is easy! We have just received a cheque for £55 – its money for nothing please join.

Letters of the Week

Week Starting	Letter		Week Starting	Letter
29 th April	c		10 th June	h
6 th May	d		17 th June	i
13 th May	e		24 th June	j
20 th May	f		1 st July	k
3 rd June	g		8 th July	l