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**Newsletter – November 2013**

## On the Move!

The staff and committee are very pleased to announce we are moving premises in January 2014. We have operated in the village hall since 1976, however, the building is showing its age and we have been looking for more suitable accommodation. We have found a great new site and only 1.1 miles down the road. It is Brookhead Studio in Woodham Mortimer where we will share the modern barn conversion with the Joanna May Dance School. The staff and committee are all very excited about this exciting news. If you have any questions please come and ask.

## We Need You – Committee

We need enthusiastic parents who can spare some time to help us out. Many of our members have children who will be going to school in September so we need to recruit new members urgently. Our general members do as little or as much as they can manage. For some that means a couple of hours per month, for others it means much more. Any time you can spare would help! We meet once a month for a couple of hours and it is nice to get to know other mums as well as help to manage the pre-school. There is absolutely no experience required. From craft to finance, publicity to baking, whatever your talents are we can use them! The Pre-School needs you, without a committee it cannot remain open. Please talk to any member of the team for more information.

## Maldon Christmas Fayre

We will be running a stall on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 6 – 9pm in Maldon High Street. It would be great to see you there and if you were able to man the stall and promote our great pre-school to others, then fantastic.

## Family Disco

Thank you to all who came, this was another successful evening with lots of happy children enjoying a boogie! A big thank you to Bubbles the entertainer who gave up her time and to the staff and committee. We raised a fabulous £265!

## Christmas Craft Afternoon

This will be held on Friday December 13<sup>th</sup> and we are pleased to be hosting it in our soon to be new home at Brookhead Studio (please note date and venue change). It will be a great opportunity to raise funds and to visit the new location. Cost is just £5 per child, pay on the day. There will be 4 crafts for the children to do and take home as well as refreshments. There will be a signing up sheet at Pre-School soon – please support us and feel free to invite friends and family.

If you have any clean glass jars or any wine corks then please pass on to a member of staff or Kate Woodroof (Edgar's Mum). Can you guess the craft?!

## Upcoming Dates For Your Diary

Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Pre-School Nativity Woodham Mortimer Church, 12.30pm
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Maldon Town Fayre 6 – 9pm Maldon High Street
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Craft event 3.30 – 5.30pm Brookhead Studio
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christingle Service Woodham Mortimer Church, 4pm, all welcome
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party (all invited) & last day of term
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> January	First day of Spring term (at Brookhead Studio!) * note this has changed – Monday will be an inset day to set up the new premises.
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	Half Term
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Pre-School Closed – Staff Training Day
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Quiz Night
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of Spring term
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	First day of Summer Term
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Jumble Sale
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri 30 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of Summer Term

## Jumble Sale

This was very successful last year helping to raise over £700 so we have booked Saturday 10th May. It may be a way off but put it in your diary to help or come and if you are having a pre/post Christmas clear out then start to save some jumble for us.

## Quiz

We have reserved Friday 21st March 2014. Please note change of date and put it in your diary.

## Other Ways to Help Your Pre-School

Do you shop online? If so please consider registering at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and supporting Woodham Mortimer Pre-School. See our website for how to do it – it is easy and we get money for nothing.

If you are buying any crafty things for Christmas please consider using [www.yellowmoon.org.uk](http://www.yellowmoon.org.uk) and choosing Woodham Mortimer Pre-School as your chosen organisation - we will receive cashback.

We are also collecting unwanted DVDs and CDs as we are able to get cash for them from [www.musicmagpie.co.uk](http://www.musicmagpie.co.uk). Please hand these to Tasha (Emma's mum) who is also collecting printer cartridges.

## Thank You for ...

### Teddy toddle



Thank you to all the children and sponsors and to all the teddies who toddled round our field to help raise funds for the Pre-School. We raised £231.25, some of which will go to buy new equipment for the children. We are hoping to buy a set of torches, a Block and Tackle Pulley system and some new imaginative costumes.

## Photos

Thank you to Little Smilers and to those who bought some photos, we raised £39.50 for the Pre-School.

## Christmas Cards

Thank you to those that order their children's designed Christmas cards. We raised £63 and they will be back from the printers soon.

## Harvest Festival



Thank you to Rev. Stephanie and to those who attended the church for the Harvest Festival. We enjoyed making and eating a yummy fruit salad.

## AGM

Thank you to those who attended the AGM, we especially enjoyed the more social aspect afterwards at the pub.

## Other events...

### Nativity

This will be held at the church on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30pm. If your child attends Pre-School on a Wednesday morning we would ask for them to bring in a pack lunch on this day. The children will have lunch at 11.45am and you can pick them up at 12.15 and take them on to the church. For those who don't attend on a Wednesday we will meet you at the church at 12.30pm.

## Christmas Party

This will be held on the last day of term Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December. There will not be a normal session this day. All children are invited from 10.30 – 1pm. There will be party games, dancing, party food and a visit from Father Christmas.

## Letters of the Week

Please help your child to find and bring in something beginning with the letter of the week.

Week Starting	Letter
18 <sup>th</sup> November	j
25 <sup>th</sup> November	k
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	l
9 <sup>th</sup> December	m
16 <sup>th</sup> December	n

## Reminders

Please remember to sign your child in the register when dropping off and picking up. Please name all belongings including their bags and make sure you provide warm clothing for your child as it gets colder – hat, coat, gloves and boots.