

Broadhall Bunnies Preschool

Newsletter September 2015

Welcome back

We hope you have all had a lovely restful summer break, we are all looking forward to the term ahead of us, saying hello again to all the familiar faces that are returning to us this term and welcoming all of our new children and families who will be starting with us over the next few weeks.

Curriculum guidance

This term's curriculum guidance will be out in the next couple of days. Please check your child's drawer for your copy; you can also find it on our website www.broadhallbunnies.co.uk

Congratulations!

We are delighted to announce that after a year of hard work and dedication Shelley has completed her level 2 training and is now a qualified early years practitioner. Well done Shelley!

Key working groups

This term Shelley is taking on a new role at Bunnies as a key person and she will be taking over the giraffe key working group from Rachel. To ensure that this transition is as smooth as possible Rachel and Shelley will be working closely together for the first half term.

All of our 'old' children will stay in their existing key working groups this term, and all of our new starters have been advised who their child's key person will be. If you are unsure who your child's key person is please speak to any member of staff.

Staff

Just a reminder as to who is who!

Rachel, (BA Hons Education Studies – Early Years) preschool leader and SENco
Anna, (level 3 Childcare Learning and Development CCLD) deputy leader and monkey group key worker
Amy, (level 3 CCLD) SENco and zebra group key worker
Jane, (level 2 CCLD) tiger group key worker
Shelley, (level 2 CCLD) giraffe group key worker
Fiona, (level 3 CCLD) preschool assistant
Dawn, (level 3 CCLD) preschool assistant
Kerry, 121 support worker and preschool assistant

All staff hold current child protection certificates and all key staff are paediatric first aid trained.

Parking

Please note that there is no allocated parking in the school grounds for children at Broadhall Bunnies Preschool or Featherstone Wood School. We request that parents park cars either opposite the play centre on Featherstone Road or at The Hyde shops. If you walk to school and wish to leave a buggy for collection later please leave it by the brick wall alongside Bunnies.

Home time

Could parents/carers please stand clear of our doorway and windows whilst waiting to collect children at home time as some of our children can find it distressing if they can see you waiting outside.

Fees

We have reviewed our likely running costs and income and, for the first time since April 2013 we have found it necessary to review our fees to remain viable. This has been brought about by the impending minimum wage increase and the upcoming introduction of the national living wage. Additionally, despite the relatively low level of inflation, our running costs have increased significantly.

We regret that in order to stand still, we will be raising our session fees to £12.00 from January 2016. Lunch clubs will also increase to £3.50 per hour.

Fees will be reviewed annually and you will be notified of any changes before they come into effect.

There is funding available for children the term after they turn 2, this is dependent on your family circumstances and income. Please check <http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/css/flexyears/freeearlyeduc/apply2yoldplace/> if you think that you might be eligible or speak to Rachel in confidence. All children are entitled to 15 hours free at preschool the term after they turn 3.

Just a reminder, all fees are due in advance at the start of each week, or, if you prefer they can be paid in advance monthly or half termly. Non payment may lead to your child's place being wholly or partially withdrawn. We will attempt to recover all unpaid debts and will take legal action if necessary.

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Labels

Please ensure that all items of clothing coming to preschool are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Changing bags

We are always happy to change nappies etc at pre-school, however parents MUST provide all the necessary equipment in a clearly labelled bag. Please ensure that changing bags have adequate supplies in each day including wipes, nappy sacks and nappies.

Providing items that are missing from bags, especially wipes and nappy sacks has incurred a huge increase on our running costs; as a consequence of this a small charge is made for items that are regularly used from our stock.

September lunch clubs

We have already had a lot of interest in lunch club places for this term; please speak to Rachel or Anna to book lunch club places or to make any changes to days.

Please note that there will be no lunch clubs on Monday 2nd November due to staff training and on Tuesday 17th November for our parent consultations.

Dates for your diary

Friday 4th September – preschool reopens

Monday 7th September – lunch clubs resume

Friday 23rd October – break up for half term

Monday 2nd November – preschool reopens

– staff training, no lunch club

Week of 9th November – sponsored event week; more details to follow soon!

Tuesday 17th November – parent consultations

Friday 11th December – Christmas jumper day fundraising event

Friday 18th December – break up

– lunch club closes at 1

Tuesday 5th January – preschool reopens

Wednesday 6th January – lunch clubs resume

Friday 12th February – break up for half term

Monday 22nd February – preschool reopens

Wednesday 24th February – Staff training, no lunch club

Friday 25th March – Good Friday – Preschool shut

Monday 28th March – Easter Monday – preschool shut

Friday 1st April – last day of term

– lunch club closes at 1pm

Monday 18th April – Inset day – preschool closed

Tuesday 19th April – preschool reopens

Thursday 21st April – no lunch club, staff training

Monday 2nd May – Bank holiday – preschool shut

May 2016 – parent consultations, date to be confirmed

Friday 27th May – break up for half term

Monday 6th June – Inset day

July 2016 – Teddy bears' picnic – date to be confirmed

Friday 22nd July – End of term (TBC)

NB: we have 1 inset day to be confirmed.