**PIED PIPER PRESCHOOL – NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN TERM 2019**

**![MC900104884[1]]()**

Welcome back! We hope you all had a good summer break and are looking forward to the run up to Christmas. Welcome also to the new children and parents joining us this term, we hope you enjoy your time with us at Pied Piper.

**PRESCHOOL FUNDING**

If your child is entitled to receive funding (payable from the term after they are 3) to pay for their preschool fees, you will be asked to sign the relevant paper work at the beginning of term. This form is only completed when they start to receive the funding or if there has been a change to the number of hours you are claiming for. If your child is paying fees, a copy of your invoice for the half term is attached.

**30 HOUR FUNDING**

We are now accepting funding from those parents who are eligible for the 30 hours funding, please speak to Eva for further details.

**SNACKS** 

Attached is a form detailing the snack costs for the autumn term. This is worked out at 20p per session (morning session only) and covers all snacks and cooking activities for the term. We have made the decision to offer only fruit and vegetables at preschool and have reduced the daily charge. Please keep us advised of any food allergies and/or special dietary requirements and we’re always open to suggestions on what to provide.

**LEARNING JOURNEYS**

Please remember to post some pictures of what your child has been doing over the summer holidays, they love telling us about what they have been doing. Don’t forget that when you read an observation that we have put on your child’s learning journey, you can give it a ‘like’ by touching the  button or you can add a comment in the box at the bottom of the page.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL/FOOD BANK**

We always keep a food bank donations box in the foyer for any parents who would like to donate at any time. During our harvest festival week we like to focus on the food collection and have a foodbank visitor talk to the children about why we donate food. The Methodist Church would like to invite you to their informal harvest celebration on Sunday 29th September.

**BIRTHDAYS**

We like to help your child to celebrate their birthday by singing happy birthday on their special day. Some parents choose to bring in something for their child to share with their friends. Please can we ask that this is kept to a small treat and sweets are not brought in on days other than their birthday.

**TOY DONATIONS**

We really value any donations to help with our fundraising efforts. We are happy to accept donations of toys and books throughout the year, as we can keep them for our fundraising events.

**SPONSORED TODDLE WADDLE**

You will shortly receive a separate letter regarding our Toddle Waddle around the Thatcham Lakes on Friday 4th October together with a sponsor form. Any sponsorship money will be gratefully received and will go towards new equipment for the children. Please note that preschool will be closed that day.

**NAME ALL CLOTHING**

Please name every item of clothing in your child’s bag and items worn to preschool, including shoes. Could you also ensure that clothing is suitable i.e. supports your child’s independence in toileting and is suitable for the weather.

**AGM 8th OCTOBER**

We are a committee run preschool and we need and value the support we receive from parents. The preschool AGM is an opportunity to hear details about how the preschool is being run and is open to everyone, we will send further details nearer the time.

**PE FOR AFTERNOON CHILDREN**

As a preparation for school, children who attend the afternoon sessions will participate in PE sessions on Mondays. You will need to provide a named PE kit (shorts and t-shirt, no pumps needed) in a named PE bag. Please remember that we will be encouraging your child to dress and undress independently so you can support them by putting them in clothes that are easier to take off and put on.

Please bring their PE kits every Monday

**MESSAGES AT DROP OFF TIME**

Drop off time is a busy time at preschool and we try to ensure we are available to speak to you. You are welcome to talk to any member of staff, who will write any messages in a book for all the staff to read. If you would like to speak to someone about something confidential then please ask a member of staff and when possible we will use the church vestry room to discuss things privately.

If you have any questions about anything on this newsletter, please see a member of staff

Eva Hughes, Sara Waters, Ann Lynch, Fiona Chareun, Sandra Howes and Alison Farrow