

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This term we have been busy settling in and really finding our feet. We have been enjoying all that autumn has to offer and making use of leaves, conkers and twigs – creating patterns and pictures. The new garden has proven to be a big hit with all of the children enjoying the new play house and delighting in garden day afternoons; we have planted pansies and daffodil bulbs.

Next term we will be focusing on winter and the run up to Christmas. There will be singing and glitter a plenty in preparation for the Christmas production and the Christmas Tree Festival. We will also be holding our Christmas Fete and Party Day – further details to follow.

We will also be holding a **‘Stay and Play’ morning on Monday 9th November** to encourage parents to stay for the morning, have a cup of tea and play with their child. As well as this, we will be holding Parent’s Consultations to update parents of their child’s progress and allow them to have a look through their Learning Journey.

**End of the Day Collection changes**

As I’m sure many of you are now aware, we have altered the collection time routine. For safety reasons, we have had to ask parents to wait in the foyer whilst staff discharge the children. Thank you for you co-operation with this new routine. I am aware that some parents feel that they do not always have the opportunity to talk to their child’s Key Worker now but please be assured that if you wish to talk to any member of staff we are always available; either for a quick chat at the time, or by booking an appointment for a longer conversation. Please just ask whoever is on the door, and we will find the required member of staff.

**Communication Books**

Please note that these should be used for important communications (eg holiday absence, if your child is under the weather or didn’t sleep well, upcoming vaccinations etc) or brief descriptions of really exciting things that your child has done. I am sure you appreciate that our staff are all very busy and we do not always have time to respond to all of your children’s exciting adventures but we do look at each book daily and take notice of any important notices and information

**Wednesday Afternoons**

We are pleased to announce that we will now be opening up for Wednesday afternoon sessions for all age groups. The morning and Lunch Club will stay as an Oak Tree’s session for the older children but the afternoon will be open to all, from 12.30. If you would like to book your child into this new session, please do not hesitate to contact me, or email manager@meldrethpreschool.com.

**Christmas Fete**

Yes, it’s coming up to that time again. We will be holding our Christmas Fete on Friday 11th December at 3pm and we really need your help to make the fete even more successful than our Summer Fete. There will be a donations box appearing in the foyer and we would be very grateful for any donations of chocolate, cuddly toys and raffle prizes. We will also be looking for anyone that can help out on the day; setting up, manning stalls and tidying up after. Please help if you can or just come along and show your support and get into the festive mood.

**Christmas Party Day**

Just to make sure that everyone really is full of festive spirit, we will be holding our Christmas Production and Party Day on Friday 18th December. The day will consist of the production, a party tea for all Pre-School children and then a disco at 3pm for Pre-School and Primary School children. We have invited the Primary School children to come along so that older siblings and ‘Old Pre-School Pupils’ can enjoy the Christmas fun; we can’t wait. Further details will follow.

**Meldreth Pre-School Fundraising Committee**

Following on from our committee AGM, we now have a new and inspiring main committee body BUT we need more helpers to build our new fundraising committee. The Pre-School is always in need of funds and so we have decided to try and build up a new sub-committee in charge of coming up with ideas and running events. We will be holding an informal fundraising meeting on Wednesday 11th November in The British Queen at 7.30pm. Please come along and support this meeting, join up if you can and help us to continue to raise funds for the Pre-School.

**Snack Contributions**

In view of our ever increasing costs, we would like to ask parents to volunteer to donate any fruit or vegetables that they can for our daily snack. This could be an extra bag of apples in your weekly shop or a couple of bananas that need eating from your fruit bowl. It will all help us to keep cutting costs where we can.

**Super Stars**

We have had some wonderful Super Star nominations and the children have been very excited about receiving their certificates. Please keep them coming in; we love reading about all the wonderful achievements and helping out that they are doing at home.

**Invoices**

We will soon be issuing the next half term’s invoices and ask that these can be paid promptly. There is a ‘to be paid by’ date on the bottom of the invoice and any late payment will incur a £5 late payment fee. From January 2016 (Spring Term) we will also be asking that parents pay the half termly fees in advance. The invoices will be sent out at the end of term and payment will be due by the first day of the next term (there will be a date on the invoice advising you of this).

With warm regards,

Victoria Walker

Pre-School Manager