

Martenscroft Nursery School and Children's Centre



'Providing excellence for children and families in Hulme through a range of high quality integrated services'

33 Epping Street, Hulme, Manchester, M15 6PA Tel: 0161 226 1266,

E-mail: admin@martenscroft.manchester.sch.uk

Web: www.martenscrofturnerschool.co.uk

Thursday 8th December 2016

Dear parents and carers,

As we approach the Christmas holidays I would just like to give you an update on a few things as well as some reminders as we prepare for January 2017.

New Parent Governor Opportunity



Following the resignation of one of our parent Governors we have the opportunity to appoint a new Governor. The work of the Governing Body is central to the leadership of Martenscroft and its success. We are really keen to hear from you if you are interested in applying for this position. A letter with nomination information will be sent home next week explaining how to apply. The closing date will be in January 2017.

New staff team members



We say a fond farewell to Mags Burke this term who has worked at Martenscroft since it opened in 1999. As Mags looks forward to her retirement we wish her all the very best and thank her for all she has contributed to the Martenscroft community over the years. Mags hopes to volunteer when she can so we look forward to welcoming her back in a different role.

We are delighted to welcome some new staff to our team. Elaine Potter and has started now as a new team member in Blossom room and Lynnette Mason has started in Willow room. Christina Macrae is a research fellow at Manchester Metropolitan University and will be working alongside our team in Palm room every Thursday to develop a research project based on the lives of two-year olds in nursery.

Maths Market



Please join us for this special event on **Monday 12th December at 3.30pm** in the hall where Maths related resources that the children have made will be on sale. There will also be ideas of how you can support Maths play and learning at home.

Christmas or Festive Jumper Day



On **Friday 16th December** all the children are invited to come to school in a special Christmas or festive jumper. The children will be enjoying a Christmas Dinner on this day so the festive jumpers will make the occasion even more fun.



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Festive celebrations

Due to the number of children this year the performances will take place on different days for Willow, Blossom and Palm rooms. Palm's celebration is on **Monday 19th December at 11am and 2.30pm**, Blossom's celebration is on **Tuesday 20th December at 2.30pm** and Willow's celebration is on **Wednesday 21st December at 2pm**. We look forward to seeing you there.



Party day with Louby Lou

On **Thursday 22nd December** all the children will be having a special party day in their room and a special visit from Louby Lou. The children are all invited to come to school in their party clothes and the children will enjoy a day of special festive games and activities, as well as some party food which we will provide.



Applications for primary school reception place

If your child is 4 years old before 31st August 2017 you must apply for a primary school place through the local authority by 16th January 2017. More information is available from reception or please check the website www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500321/primaryschooladmissions



Read Manchester

Read Manchester is a campaign from Manchester City Council and the National Literacy Trust to promote reading and boost literacy throughout the city. We are supporting this campaign and hope that you will all be involved in many of the initiatives over the coming months. Please see the website for more information www.literacytrust.org.uk/communities/literacy_hubs/manchester and look out opportunities to be involved over the next year.

Holiday Closures

This is just a reminder that the whole school and centre closes for the Christmas holidays at the end of the day on Friday 23rd December. Blossom room and the Children's Centre only will reopen on Tuesday 3rd January 2017. Willow class and Palm room will reopen on Tuesday 10th January 2017. **Please note** the whole school and centre is closed on Monday 9th January 2017 for a staff training day.

I wish you all a very happy and peaceful time over the festive season and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. Many thanks for all your support and if there is anything you would like to discuss please contact me or any of the nursery staff team.

Yours sincerely,

Liz Hardy
Headteacher

