

# Earlybirds Newsletter

December 2018



## News from the Earlybirds Team

We are delighted to welcome our new staff to the team. Mrs Sarah-Jane Clark and Miss Hayley Fahy join us as our new Pre School Assistant and 1:1 Support Assistant respectively and I am sure everyone will join with us in wishing them well as they settle in.

Christmas is fast approaching and as you have been previously made aware, we are planning a short nativity performance on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December in the school hall for approximately 9.30am. Our Christmas party will follow our nativity and if your child is not in setting that day, we very much hope they will still be able to attend both. Please remember an adult will need to stay with them as they are not included in our ratios. Please let us know if you are planning for your child to attend. **Admission to the nativity will be by ticket only – please request your tickets (up to a maximum of 4 per family) from the Earlybirds staff.**

We are asking all parents to provide a small plate of food for the party. Paper plates and further information regarding this have been sent home.

Children will also be able to participate in the FONS Christmas Shopping morning on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December. They will be able to buy presents for family members and forms for this should have already been returned.

Don't forget this term's progress reports will be available on Tapestry from Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December and parent consultations will be held during the week of 10<sup>th</sup> December. Please speak to your child's key person to book an appointment time.

10<sup>th</sup> December is also our Christmas themed Stay and Play week and we are inviting parents into setting from 9-10am each morning and 2-3pm each afternoon to join their child for some special Christmas activities. If you would like to attend, please let a member of staff know as these sessions are available on a first come, first served basis.

## Staff Members

Lucy Chambers – Leader and Safeguarding Lead  
Marina Moro – Deputy Leader and Deputy Safeguarding Lead  
Anne Slade - SENCo and Pre School Assistant  
Jane Waller - Pre School Assistant  
Sarah Jane Clark – Pre School Assistant  
Hayley Fahy – 1:1 Special Needs Assistant

## Reminder

Please remember to close and bolt the gate that leads onto the main road.

Please do not park in the layby or on the zigzag lines at any time.

We are a NUT FREE pre-school.

### **Bad weather arrangements**

As winter has arrived, we would like to remind everyone of the procedure if the weather is bad.

If you feel the weather conditions are unsuitable to travel in and are unsure as to whether Earlybirds is open, please note the following steps will be taken as soon as possible:

- \* Subject to power being available, a message will be sent via the Earlybirds email account.
- \* A recorded message will be placed on Newtown Soberton Infant School's two mobile phones. The numbers are: 07545 355572 and 07545 355570.
- \* BBC Radio Solent, Express FM, Heart South Coast, The Breeze, The Coast and Wave 105 will be notified of our closure and issue bulletins, but these cannot be relied upon.

If the weather conditions appear to deteriorate during the day when the children are in Earlybirds, do not hesitate to pick up your child as early as possible. Remember your own safety and be assured that any child would always remain with a member of staff until you arrive. If you cannot pick up your child we must have your permission before your child leaves with another parent.

In the event of a power cut at the site, our land-line telephone does not work. In this instance the two mobile phones will be switched on. The numbers are: 07545 355572 or 07545 355570.

Please keep this information somewhere safe. We hope it will not be necessary to implement this procedure, but wish parents to be fully informed of what will happen should the weather deteriorate.

### **Session availability**

If you would like to increase your child's sessions in the Spring Term, additional hour request forms have already been sent. These should have been returned to the pre school by 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

### **Wow moments on Tapestry**

Please remember to add any of your child's WOW moments onto Tapestry. Please also feel free to add any observations you have noticed of your child as this provides a holistic picture of them. It would be particularly useful if parents could add observations of their child using any technology they have at home as we have limited resources for this in the pre-school.

### **Key Dates**

#### **Autumn Term 2018**

- **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec**

#### **Spring Term 2019**

- **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

#### **Summer Term 2019**

- **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

Staff training INSET dates (pre-school closed):

- Monday 25<sup>th</sup>/Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June.
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Shopping morning organised by FONS
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December Reports to Parents
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December Stay and Play Sessions (Christmas themed)
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December Parent Consultation Appointments
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 9.30am onwards Earlybirds Nativity and Christmas Party
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 3.00pm Earlybirds closes for Christmas
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 9.00am Earlybirds re-opens for Spring Term