

September 2018 Newsletter

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Dates to remember

Committee AGM

Monday 1st October 2018

Fish & Chip Quiz

Friday 12th October 2018

Last day of this half term

Wednesday 17th October 2018

Family Activity Morning

Wednesday 7th November 2018

Bags to School

Friday 9th November 2018

2018-2019 Term Dates

Wednesday 17th October – Last day of 1st half term

Monday 29th October – First day of 2nd half term

Friday 14th December – Last day of Autumn term

Monday 17th December – Nativity (more details to follow).

Thursday 3rd January – First day of spring term

Friday 15th February – Last day of 1st half term

Monday 25th February – First day back after half term

Friday 5th April – Last day of Spring term

Tuesday 23rd April – First day of summer term

Monday 6th May – closed for bank holiday

Friday 24th May – last day of 1st half term

Monday 3rd June – First day back

Friday 19th July – Last day of summer term

Monday 22nd July – Graduation party.

Welcome back.....

We would like to welcome back all our families who were with us in July and welcome to all 16 new families. We hope you have all had a great summer.

Our Preschool operating hours now are as follows:

Monday & Friday 8.30am-1pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8.30am – 4pm

We begin this half term settling new children and covering a topic called "All About Me" exploring what

children like, what makes them the same or different from others and looking at their families.

We will also be sharing the story "The Scarecrows Wedding" and will be sending that home, for children to share with their families and complete a simple activity sheet. Look out for it!

Some of you may already be aware that sadly two local preschools, Gressenhall playgroup and North Elmham preschool, have had to shut down recently. Both preschools had been running for a very long time and they leave a big gap in the community.

AGM

Our annual general meeting is a very important part of our year, it is a time that we have a brief look at what we've been doing in regards to preschool life, to talk about future projects and fundraising, as well as having the opportunity to thank those parents who have worked as a team on our committee to support the staff, the preschool and raise the money needed to make us sustainable.

It is also a time where we will have to say goodbye to some of those committee members, as their children move on to school and we look to find new committee members.

You will get the chance to put a face to a name that you see or will see in various correspondence that are sent out.

If you would like to know more of what it entails to be a committee member please speak to Di and she will guide you in the right direction.

Come and join us at our **AGM on Monday 1st October in Preschool at 7.30pm**, enjoy a drink, meet new people and thank the committee.

There is **no** obligation to join the committee but we welcome anyone who is interested in helping us to maintain our Outstanding achievements.

Contact Details

If you change your phone number, mobile phone number, address or email address; can you please make sure that you let Di or Emma know so we can make sure you receive all the information we send out.

Fundraising **Bags to School**

Don't forget to bring your bags with unwanted clothes, shoes, bags and soft toys in, before 9am on **Friday 9th November**. The more we have the more money we can raise.

Online shopping

Do you like to shop on line? If so you could help raise money for the preschool every time you shop.

You can do so by either using "giveasyoulive.com" or "easyfundraising.co.uk". Follow the links below to register your support and a percentage of what you spend will be donated to the pre-school.

www.giveasyoulive.com/join/beetleypreschool

or www.easyfundraising.org.uk.

or smile.amazon.co.uk.(when using Amazon Smile please search for "Beetley and District Pre-school")

Thank you.

100 club

The winners of the September 100 club draw are:

1st Prize – no.3 G O'Brien

2nd Prize – no.26 A Mear

3rd Prize – no.12 D Calvert

If you are interested in joining our 100 Club please speak to member of staff.

Quiz night

The next quiz night is on Friday 12th October.

Teams can be of up to 6 people at a cost of £8 per person to include a fish and chip supper. Tables are running out fast so if you want to join in the fun you've got to be quick!!

Thank you

We would like to say thank you to Ellie Farnworth who has been raising money for us to put in to the new build fund, by collecting and selling toys.

OurSchoolsApp



The Preschool launched its own app at the end of last term which you are able to download onto your smart phone. It will allow you to access lots of

Preschool information including newsletters, the website, Tapestry, Term Dates, Policies and lots more, all from the one place. The app is free to download you just need to search for OurSchoolsApp in the app store. Once downloaded you will need to search for the preschool entering either "Beetley & District Pre-school" or Postcode NR20 4BW when prompted. The app is new to the preschool and we are still working out how to utilize it to its full potential. So please bear with us. We hope you will find it useful and would welcome any feedback. If you need any help please speak to Di or Emma. Thank you.

Website

Take a look at our website www.beetley-preschool.org. Our aim is to update it half termly with photos and posts showing what we've been up to.

Facebook

We do have a Facebook page, so please look us up and like our page. We will use the page to share information on what we are doing, suggestions for things you can do at home with your children and links to useful websites

Parent volunteer list

On the wall of the foyer we have a parent volunteer list if you would like to come and offer your services to join us for a few hours in the morning or afternoon one day. It's a great opportunity for you to see what goes on at preschool on a typical day and for you to join your child in their play. It's also an extra pair of hands for us which is always welcome or even share with the children something you enjoy doing, baking, reading stories or some form of craft. So if you feel it's something you would like to do pick a day, add your name to the sheet and let Di or Emma know.

New Build

Hopefully by now you will have seen the great artists impression of how we would like the new preschool to look.

We are in the process of finding out from the electricity and water boards if we are going to be able to get a service, nothing can happen until we find that out. We are also getting a lease drawn up between the preschool and the parish council.

While this is going on in the background, we want to start raising as much money as possible. A few ideas that we have had are; people saving all their coppers, sponsor a paving slab, you can get more details on this from staff at preschool or join our 100 club. Meetings are held monthly and we will try to keep you all informed on how it is going.

Payments

Please continue to put any payments to preschool in named envelopes as it really is a big help to us in the mornings. A supply of small brown envelopes are in the foyer should you need them.

Stay & Play sessions

Stay and Play sessions resumed on **Thursday 6th September** at the Village Hall. These sessions are open to anyone who has a child/children aged 0 - 5 years and run from 9.30am to 11am, at a cost of £2.50 per family of up to two children, any additional children at 50p.

An average of 15 families attend each week and people who attend do not have to come to the pre-school, so if you have friends that might be interested let them know. Come and join us.

Children's Belongings

Please could we ask that all your child's belongings are clearly named. We know that many of you do this but some labels are written on and these fade over time making them sometimes hard to read. This would help us greatly at the end of each day when we try to match items to children. If your child has mislaid anything there is a pink bucket in the foyer where lost property gets put, so please check regularly. Thank you for your help.

Collection Password

Please remember, if you need your child to be collected by someone new, this could be due to some unforeseen circumstance, an emergency or may just be a new person you have added to your list of eligible people, you will be required to obtain a password from the staff. The new person collecting will need to know this password before we can release your child into their care. This password will change on a regular basis.

NO NUTS

We would like to remind you that we have a NO NUT policy in place. Can you please make sure when you are packing your child's lunch box that none of the food contains nuts.

Thank you for your support.

Parking

If you are bringing in your child before 9am and picking up any time from 3.15pm – 3.30pm you could park in the car park along Fakenham road and walk through the school grounds. This is a much safer place to park. If you are unable to do this then can you please remember not to park on the zig-zag lines at the corner of the horseshoe, in the horse shoe or on the rectangular areas marked out on Elmham Road.

Also it has been brought to our attention that some younger children are being left in the cars when older children are being dropped off, if you are unable to bring them in please ring the preschool or ask another parent to ask us when they come in, and we will come out and collect your child.

Thank you.

School Dinners

The cost of school dinners is £2.30. If you would like a hot school dinner for your child we can order it from the school.

You will need to order the dinner the day before either by letting us know or informing the school office.

Payment must be received in advance to secure the dinner.

A menu will be available in preschool.

Wish List

We are very lucky to have people ask us if there is anything they could get to support the Preschool. With this in mind we have set up an Amazon account for the Preschool, with a wish list of some of the things we would like, (to see the list go to www.amazon.co.uk, from the "Your Lists" drop down menu on the right choose 'find a list', then type "Beetley" in the search box and you should be able to find the Preschool).

Our wish tree is now up in the foyer and a big thank you to those who have donated items already. If you would like to help us reduce our weekly costs on fruit items for snack for example, please look at the wish tree pick an apple detailing the product you would like to donate and hand it to a member of staff. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Tapestry

Please note that to access Tapestry you will now need to use the following: www.tapestryjournal.com.

Illness

Please help us to reduce the spread of coughs, colds and sickness.

If your child appears unwell before they come to preschool; you have given them Calpol; they have a green runny nose or they have been sick in the last 48 hours, they are not well enough to attend. Please keep them at home until they are better to avoid giving the illness to other children. Thank you.

If your children are going to be off could you please let us know either by ringing the Preschool on 01362 860860 or by

email beetleypreschool@hotmail.com

