

February 2020 Newsletter

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What are we up to.....

We are continuing with the story "Whatever Next" by Gill Murphy and the children have enjoyed acting it out using props.

The children were very lucky to have enjoyed a visit from "Let's Dance" who came and encouraged the children to move to music whilst wearing headphones. It was great fun! A dentist also visited the preschool with his helpful dog "Bananas" and talked to the children about how to look after their teeth and eating healthy foods. Some pictures of these activities will appear on the website so don't forget to go and have a look in the Gallery.

Fees

Please note from 1st of April, due to the increase in National Living Wage, we are having to increase our fees by 50p per hour. For children aged 2-3 club will be £4.00 per hour and for children aged 3 plus will be £3.70.

If you have any questions, please speak to Di or Emma

Family Activity Week

During the week beginning 2nd March we are holding a family activity week based around the "Whatever Next" story book. Each day we will be doing different craft activities.

Letters are going out this week inviting you to join us and telling you which activity is on each day. Could you please complete the reply slip and return it to preschool by Wednesday 26th February, so we know how many people to expect.

World Book Day Thursday 5th March

To celebrate the joy of books we are inviting children who attend on Thursdays to come in dressed as their favourite character from a book.

New Build Project

After over 2 years of discussions with the parish council about the possibility of relocating the preschool to the field by the car park on Fakenham Road, the parish council have decided that they are not prepared to challenge the change of the covenant on the field.

This news is very disappointing and the fact they have taken so long to come to this conclusion has meant that we have used up valuable time.

Dates to remember

Fish & Chip Quiz

Friday 7th February 2019

Half Term

17th – 21st February 2020

Family Activity Week

2nd – 6th March 2020

World Book Day

Thursday 5th March 2020

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Saturday 21st March 2020

Last day of Spring Term

Wednesday 1st April 2020

First Day of Summer Term

Monday 20th April 2020

Family Activity Week

18 – 22 May 2020

Sports Day

Thursday 25th June 2020

Outing

Tuesday 30th June 2020

Last Day of Term

Friday 17th July 2020

Graduation & End of Term Party

Monday 20th July 2020

The new build committee are looking at different options and as soon as we have any news, we will let you know.

Any money that we have raised over the last few years to go towards the new build will remain in the bank account until we know what we are doing.

School Dinners

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

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 and is also available on our website www.beetley-preschool.org/school-meals/.

Bad Weather

We have reached that time of year again where we may have to close due snow and the roads being dangerous. If this happens, we will use "Our Schools App", send out a text message to all those who are on the messaging service, put a notice on our Facebook page and on the Family Information Service page. You can also check on the Norfolk County Councils, Schools website or listen to the local radio. We will close if St Mary's School Beetley decides to close.

Stay & Play sessions

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

Come and join us.

There will be no session on **Thursday 20th February** due to half term.

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.

OurSchoolsApp

Remember to check out the preschool App for 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. We are hoping that this app and our Facebook page will be the way we will inform you if the preschool has to close for any unforeseen emergency like adverse weather conditions. So



please could you download the app and if you are unable to please speak to Di or Emma. Thank you.

Wish Tree

For those new families that have joined us and as a reminder to everyone, we do have a wish tree up on the wall in the foyer. It looks like this:



In the past parents have asked if there is anything they can buy for the preschool and therefore the Wish Tree was devised. Each apple has a small label attached detailing what we need. This is usually fruit items for snack or other resources which we use in the preschool. If you would like to donate something, please remove the label, buy the product and return the label and item to the school. Thank you to all those that have contributed in the past. It really is a big help to the preschool.

Communication Development

The BBC have a lots of ideas that you can use to help develop your child's communication skills. Information can be found on www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people

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

Fundraising

Online shopping

Do you like to shop online? If so you could help raise money for the preschool every time you shop. You can do so by using "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.easyfundraising.org.uk.

or smile.amazon.co.uk. (when using Amazon Smile please search for "Beetley and District Pre-school") You can now get the **Amazon Smile App** on your android phones:

1. Update the app on google play
2. Open the Amazon Shopping app
3. Tap the main menu on the app
4. Tap settings
5. Tap Amazon smile
6. Follow the instructions on the screen

Fish & Chip Quiz

The next quiz is on Friday 7th February and it is already fully booked. We look forward to seeing all you quizzers that have reserved a table. If any one has any thing they would like to donate to the raffle please bring in to the preschool. Thank you.

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

A lovely chance to spoil someone special with a relaxing afternoon tea.

For more details see the poster below.

100 club

The winners of the February 100 club draw are:

1st Prize – M Lusher

2nd Prize – C Read

3rd Prize – Preschool

If you would like to join and have a chance to win, please ask a member of staff.

Committee Needs YOU!

To help the fundraising events run, we need volunteers. This may include help before the events or on the day. As well as the Mother's day tea coming up we also have our annual duck race.

If you have a couple of hours to spare and would like to offer your help please speak to Di and Emma who will pass on your details to the committee.

Thank you

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.



Illness

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

Before we broke up for the Christmas holidays, we had a lot of children off with various illnesses. Some of these children have had to spend time in hospital over the holidays to fight off their illness.

PLEASE do not send your child in if they **appear 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**, this way we may be able to reduce the number of sick 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.

Information can be found on www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people.

Children & Youngs Peoples Health Services

Norfolk Health have set up a one stop website with lots of interactive tools and information. If you have questions about your child's health, behavior, etc. or want advice, take a look at:

<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/>

Support for Children and Families in Norfolk

For families with children aged 0-5 the above organisation provides information and advice by phone or online. They also provide baby Bounce and Rhyme sessions at the library and other drop in sessions where you can go to meet others and find someone to talk to. This service can also arrange to visit you in your home or community building closer to where you live if that is more convenient.

Their telephone number is 0344 800 8020 or go to

www.norfolk.gov.uk/earlychildhood

Please also see our website for information.

Help

This half term the children have had fun pretending to be hairdressers. Next half term we will be turning the hairdressers into a florist's.

If you have anything that you feel would be suitable for a florist's and are happy to donate them please bring them in and give them to a member of staff.

Thank you

Important Parking

Every month we have to repeat the same information about parking.

For the safety of others it is very important that you:

- **Do not park in the horseshoe.**
- **You do not park in the school staff car park**
- **Do not park on the Zig-zag lines at the corner of the horseshoe**
- **You do not park on the rectangular areas marked out on Elmham Road.**

We appreciate that at drop off and pick up times the road is very busy and there is limited space to park, but you can use the car park along Fakenham road.

Can you also make sure that if you have family or friends picking up or dropping off you need to make sure they know where they can park.

This is to ensure the safety of all children at school and preschool.

Thank you.