

January 2021 Newsletter

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Email to beetleypreschool@hotmail.com
www.beetley-preschool.org

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preschool or school once you have dropped your children off.

Dates to remember

Bags2School

Thursday 28th January 2021

Last day of this half term

Friday 12th February 2021

2019-2020 Term Dates

Spring half term – Monday 15th – 19th February
Friday 26th March – Last day of Spring term

Monday 12th April – First day of Summer term
Summer half term – Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June
Last day of summer term – Wednesday 21st July

Please note some of these days maybe subject to change as we decide if our End of Term Graduation party is organised.

Welcome back

Happy New Year! We really hope that you were able to relax and have some fun during the Christmas break. January has arrived and a new term begins. We are looking forward to seeing all the children again, but are keeping alert to any changes in government guidance which may mean plans change at short notice. If the government's decision is to close Early Year's settings, we will remain open to children of key workers and those that are classed as vulnerable only. We may also have to ask you to reduce your child's hours if we have staff shortages due to illness or childcare issues. We will try to give you as much notice as we can but this is not always possible.

When dropping off and picking up, the staff will now be wearing face coverings. This is to protect you and them so helping to keep everyone safe. Could we ask that you try to arrive at preschool at your drop off or pick up time. This will help create a steady flow and reduce the number of people being in one place at a time. Please could we also ask that you do not wait for other parents outside

At the start of the last term we introduced "Time to Talk" a resource we used to help improve communication and language skills for all children, helping them to develop their listening and attention skills and to engage in some fun activities centered around a bear called Ginger and her family. This will continue but we will also introduce the children to "Numberland" to help develop children's maths skills. Every other week the children will be introduced to a number and the house and garden that the number lives in. Concepts such as shape, space, size, quantity, number, numerals and counting will all be incorporated in a way that makes maths and numbers fun.

Beetley Bears

We were hoping to restart Beetley Bears, our stay and play sessions at the village hall this month but because we are now in a tier 4 area we feel that it is not the right time to resume. When conditions allow we will review the situation and let you know via Facebook, Family or email when we hope to run the sessions again.

Children's Belongings

As you are probably aware windows are kept open throughout the day at preschool to provide ventilation. Therefore please could you ensure that your child/children wear layers of clothing and that all their clothes 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 you have mislaid an item please ask the staff to check our lost property bucket. Thank you for your help.

Website

The website is still up and running so why not take a look, www.beetley-preschool.org .

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

Christmas Quiz, Raffle & Wreath making

The Christmas Quiz raised £27.50, Raffle £149.50 and the Wreath making £632.50. Thank you to everyone who took part and thank you again for all those who donated items for the hampers. It has been a challenging year for the committee where fundraising is concerned but we are thankful for the support we receive from all of you!

Online shopping

At this time this may be the only way you can get what you want and need.

As you shop you could help raise money for the preschool.

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

Bags2School

Have you been busy sorting out wardrobes and cupboards, if so we have arranged a collection for Thursday 28th January, with Bags2School. They will take donations of clothes, soft toys, bags, and shoes and the more we collect the more money we make. Donations can be placed in any plastic bags and brought into preschool by 9am on the 28th January.

Parking

I know this is something we mention each month, but we still have families parking in areas that make it unsafe for children and also not taking local residents into consideration.

Please remember not to park on the zig-zag lines at the corner of the horseshoe, in the horse shoe outside the school or on the red rectangular areas marked out on Elmham Road. Please avoid mounting the pavement with part of your wheels or blocking the driveways of residents who live on the road. Thank you.

Illness

If you or your child has a temperature; a continuous cough; or a loss or change of sense of smell or taste it is important that you inform preschool, isolate at home, do not send your child to preschool and that you get a test straight away. You can book a test by calling 119 or visit www.nhs.uk/coronavirus.

If you are not sure if you should be sending your child into preschool because of the symptoms they have, use the link below for guidance.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/behaviour-and-attendance/attendance/school-attendance/when-to-keep-your-child-off-school>

Please also help us to reduce the spread of coughs, colds and sickness. Children are still likely to get normal colds, coughs and sickness bugs as the colder weather approaches.

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 or by using the Family app to report them absent.

Policies

Over the past few months the committee and staff have reviewed and adopted the following policies:

Child protection
Staffing and employment
Safer recruitment
Babysitting
Whistleblowing
NCC Safeguarding audit
Retention of records
Safeguarding
Safeguarding use of mobile phones

Most of these policies are available to access from the website or by speaking to Di or Emma. 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.

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.