

**Noah’s Ark Christmas Newsletter December 2016**

Dear Parents,

Another year has almost gone by and we are nearing the end of the term with only one more week to go. The team and the children have been very busy practising for our Christmas singing amongst all our other normal activities. Please remember that the children will be more tired than usual during this last week.

There have been a number of fundraising activities during recent weeks such as **coffee morning and afternoon**, **pyjama day**, **children’s portraits**, **cake sale**, **Christmas tree challenge** and **Christmas cards**. The Christmas cards have now been delivered. Apologies for the delay which was out of our control.

The fundraising money will be spent towards buying new big cars and kitchen equipment such as mixers. We are hoping to buy these things in the January sales.

The singing will take place on **Friday 16th December** for the morning children at **11am** and for the afternoon children at **2.30pm**. If your child does not normally attend on a Friday, please let them join us on this day. Don’t forget to bring in your child’s costume from this week onwards and let us know, if you have any problem finding appropriate items.

As you may be aware there is not much space in the main room. Please try to limit the number of family members. If you bring siblings, especially younger ones, please supervise them so that they do not disturb the children’s performances. And, if your child is upset, refuses to perform or runs to you, please do not worry. It is all very normal for children of this age group. The performance is not very long so we would appreciate your support in this matter. All children have been doing really well so far. They are fantastic!

In recent years we have revealed the winners of our Christmas tree competition straight after the performances. However, this year, due to larger group, the winners will be announced on Wednesday 14th December.

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**Dates**

**Monday 19th December** - **Christmas** **parties**. This is a normal session for morning and afternoon, but the team will be preparing party food and organise games and music. There may be a visit from Father Christmas in both sessions. Sshhhh. All children who usually do not attend are invited on this day. Please feel free to let them dress up in party clothes or Christmas jumpers. All party food and presents are bought from parent’s termly donations. The morning session ends at **11.30am** and the afternoon session at **3pm**.

**The last day of term** is also on the 19th December 2016. The pre-school will reopen on 3rd January 2017.

**Recent survey 30 hour funding**

A big thank you to all parents who returned the survey about the 30 hour funding for 2017. This survey will be used in our next committee meeting to determine our next step for this change in Government funding. Please be rest assured that free 15 hour funding will continued to be offered at Noah’s Ark.

**Staff and other news**

Suellie Loures who has started as level 3 student in September 2016 has now been employed as a Temporary Learning Support Assistant for two afternoons a week. We welcome her on board.

We recently acquired a Quality assurance certificate in the module ‘**Tailored for Twos’.** This was achieved by performing several action points. Kingston’s Achieving for Children particularly liked ‘the visual choices for children to select activities, review of the established snack time to alleviate waiting time for younger children and seeking views of favourite activities by the children. Well done to the whole team!!

**A very special Thanks**

I would like to give a special thanks to **Peter Creaser**, Thomas’ dad, who has fixed our smartboard problems and various lap tops free of charge and on numerous occasions. We are most grateful for this invaluable support and saving to Noah’s Ark. ☺☺☺

The team and I wish you a very peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year.

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Bettina, Melissa, Julie, Theresa, Sandie, Sharna, Dawn, Joe, Rosy and Suelli

