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Newsletter January 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and All,

Happy New Year and welcome back everyone. Where did the Christmas holidays go?? We hope you all had a wonderful time, and thank you all very much for the kind wishes and gifts at the end of last term. Thank you also to everyone that bought Christmas cakes last term. The children absolutely loved making and decorating them, so we hope you all enjoyed eating them too. We are already planning next years!!

We would like to welcome Damien to Bridgerule and Robert to Bradford this term.

Reminders

As it's the beginning of a new year we would like to just send out a few reminders to everyone:

- Please ensure that your children always have a coat with them, as it gets very cold out in our playground.
- If your child is not going to be in pre-school for their session, please could you let us know asap, as we generally wait for everyone to be in before we begin our main activities (we also worry!!). A text message to the appropriate setting will suffice (Bridgerule 07879 955874, Bradford 07792 501476).
- Please ensure that your child has a healthy balance of food in their packed lunch box - Savoury items (sandwich, crackers, savoury pastry, cold pasta, etc.), Dairy (cheese, yoghurt), Fresh fruit (at least one piece); and please feel free to add a treat (small bun/piece of cake, some crisps, biscuit). Please remember no sweets. We provide water for them to drink at all times, but if you would like them to have another drink with their lunch please send it in.
- Please try and write in your child's communication book occasionally. Making links with the child's home is an important part of our practice, and having some information to start a conversation is really useful. With the current numbers in Bridgerule, particularly in the morning sessions, it may be that we don't write in your child's book every day, but we will try and ensure that we write in it at least once a week.

Keyperson Meetings

Thank you for taking the time to attend your key person meetings last term - as mentioned above, working with parents is very important to us. We hope that you are all happy with the information you saw, but if you have any further questions or comments about how we do things please let us know. We value your support.

Committee Meeting

We have our next committee meeting on Wednesday 24th January at the Rydon Inn at 7.30pm. They are very informal friendly meetings but we do need your support. Without a full committee the pre-schools cannot operate. With this in mind if anyone is available to join us, it would be most appreciated. Please speak to a member of staff or current committee members. It would involve attending a meeting each term, filling out an online form for Ofsted (Edwina - our administrator, will help you with this) and helping out with fundraising events.

Bags 2 school

We have another bags 2 school collection later on this term, in March (date tbc). So please start turning out your cupboards and encourage friends and family to as well. We have plenty of bags in both settings so please help yourself. This is a great money raiser for us.

Other easy fundraising that you can help with:

- ❖ **Ink cartridges** - We are collecting used ink cartridges in each setting to recycle & raise funds for our pre-schools.

- ❖ **Easy Fundraising** - A very simple way to fundraise for our pre-schools - YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING (just download the app & it will ask you if you want to make a donation whilst you shop). Please follow the link for further information: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bradfordpreschool/>

Headcount week

Headcount week will be coming up in the next couple of weeks so it will be important that you all sign the sheet in order for us to be able to claim the funding that your child is entitled to.

Learning this term

Both settings are going to be looking at animals this term, as lots of the children have been showing interest in different animals - be it farm animals, wild animals, and only this morning we had a big discussion about who has pets at home. There will be different activities going on, depending where the children take it; but if you have any info or resources that you think might be useful, please let us know.

With this in mind does anyone have any items of camouflage that we could borrow for role play - hats, jackets, bag, material, etc.? Also, any animal dressing up costumes?

Dance sessions

The children at Bridgerule really enjoyed the dance session with Jess at the end of term. After much juggling and discussions we think we have been able to arrange for each setting to have 3 sessions each during this term. It maybe that not all children are able to access the sessions, as we have had to work around Jess' availability, but please bear with us, there will be other opportunities for them during their time at pre-school. The first session will hopefully be at Bridgerule this Wednesday, so we will speak to parents individually about this and let you know other dates when we have them confirmed.

Diary dates

January

24th - next committee meeting - new members needed and welcome.

February

8th/9th - Break for half term

19th/20th - Return to school

March

Bags 2 school collection - date tbc

28th/29th - End of term

April

16th/17th - Beginning of summer term.

Any questions please speak to any member of staff.

Bridgerule and Bradford pre-school Teams