THORVERTON PRE-SCHOOL NEWSLETTER MAY 2012

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This term's theme, the **Queen's Diamond Jubilee**, means that the children are exploring shapes, colours and castles. Please see the board in the lobby area where there is information about how our theme ties into the Early Years Foundation Stage, and also gives you ideas to support your children's learning experiences at home. Your children will benefit immensely if you are aware of what they are doing at pre-school and you continue to further develop their learning at home.

You will also find weekly learning information on the white board above the share and tell shelves.

Next half-term the focus will be the Olympics and trains...

Don't forget that the books and story sacks in the lobby area are free to borrow. Please return any you have at home and ensure a member of staff is aware if the sacks are missing things or are looking a bit 'tired' and require some T.LC.

Dates for your diary:

Thorverton Art Week: 14-19 May

Half Term: 4-8 June

Summer Trip: Exmouth by train 12 July Committee meeting: 5 July, Exeter Inn

CONGRATULATIONS to Tracy Weeks who has recently completed her BA (Hons) in Early Childhood Studies – well done!

And a reminder that **Emma Hemmington** is our new administrator and the person to speak to if you have any queries about hours, fees etc.

Pre School Garden Wish List

We will be making some exciting changes to the garden behind pre-school and class 1 and have started to collect some materials, however there are still several things on our 'wishlist' including; decking, wooden trellis's, lengths of wood, railway sleepers, spare plants and more!

There will soon be a full list with dimensions etc on the noticeboard at pre-school so please have a look and see if you have anything lying around at home! We will also need some willing volunteers over a weekend or the holidays to turn the plans into reality! Watch this space...

REMINDERS

SESSION END TIMES

Morning sessions end 11.45
Lunch club ends 12.45
Afternoon sessions end 3.15pm
Please collect your children promptly at the end of sessions.

Your Contact Details

Please ensure Pre School is informed of any address or telephone number changes to avoid any difficulties contacting you in cases of an emergency.

Lunch Money

Payable in advance please, and no later than on the day the lunch is required.

We are unable to order lunches unless they have been paid for – now £2.25.

PRE-SCHOOL T-SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS

Available from Pre-School for £4.50 and £7

SUNNY DAYS!

Please make sure your children bring hats and sun cream with them as the summer arrives (hopefully!).

Parent – Pre School Partnership

Thank you to all parents who take part in the weekly questions, please continue to look out for these as your input is really valuable. As part of the project our children are looking at 'school readiness', some of you may have already taken a teddy home to practice putting on and taking off clothes.

A reminder that 'WOW' slips (located on top of the share and tell shelves) can be used by patents to celebrate achievements, exciting news or outings/activities your children have particularly enjoyed away from pre-school, these will then go into your child's learning journey.

Don't forget you are welcome to look through your child's Learning Journey folder at any time - please ask your key worker.

PRE-SCHOOL SUMMER TRIP

We are planning a trip to the beach for a picnic this year.

In support of the learning theme next ½ term we'll be catching the train from Crediton to Exmouth. The provisional date is **Thursday 12**July and if it is wet we will catch the train into Exeter for a trip to the museum instead.

More information to follow...

FUNDRAISING

Thank you to everyone who baked cakes, savouries, donated raffle prizes or helped out at our fundraising events, here's an update:

Netball Tournament 25th March - raised £455 A special thank you to Keeley (Anna's mum) for single handedly organising this successful day – and the great sunny weather!

Gardener's Question Time 28th March - raised £165 Special thanks to Tania and Mark [Archie's mum and dad] and the members of the Thorverton Allotment Holders who organised the evening, and for everyone who kindly provided refreshments.

<u>Ploughing Match 31st March – raised £390</u> A big thank you to Tracy and Mark Weekes for hosting this event again, a fantastic amount raised on the day for pre-school.

AND WHAT'S COMING UP:

Rag Bag collection: continual collection in the office and soon a collection box will be appearing outside pre-school.

<u>Easy Fundraising</u>: Please sign up and use <u>www.easyfundraiser.org.uk</u> for all your online shopping (just chose Thorverton Pre-School as your charity).

<u>Sainsbury's Vouchers</u>: Last few days for anyone with these lying around at home. <u>Old Printer Cartridges</u>: We have also signed up to a printer cartridge recycling scheme to raise money. The scheme cannot take Epson, Brother or toner cartridges but all others. Please hand any cartridges to pre-school staff.

A big **THANKYOU** to Pat (Becky's mum) who is running a **Tombola** in aid of Pre-school at the Thorverton Saturday Markets (and others).

Newton St Cyres Revel: Becky has kindly offered to run a Tombola and a cake stall for preschool at this event on Sunday 8 July from 12 noon – 5pm. So Pat and Becky are now collecting any suitable prizes, please bring in anything you may be able to donate for the Tombolas, we'll be asking for cakes and bakes nearer the time too! Thank you.