



Panda Playgroup, Sticky Mitts & Tiny Tots

newsletter

Summer term 2 2014

Term dates

Break up: Thursday 17th July

Autumn term starts: TBC

Welcome to our final half term of the year. We are losing 10 panda friends as they are moving on to school and although we will be very sad to see them go we are happy for their new beginnings and proud to have been part of their early years.

The children have been participating in many play opportunities within Panda Playgroup, Sticky Mitts and Tiny Tots. There are lots of events and diary dates throughout this next term so please keep reading any emails, notices or handouts. We always have a good time when we come together.



Panda News

Panda Leader Comment: I am approaching the last half term of the year and have almost completed a full year as Panda Leader. I would like to thank each and every one of you for welcoming me so warmly into my leadership role and your help and support has always been highly appreciated. A big thank you to those who join in with Wake up shake up!

Being a new leader means making my own stamp on things and allowing my 20 years experiences in pre-school care and education to be implemented the best possible way I see fit in providing the best start for your children. On reflecting back over the year I can see how much Panda's has improved its quality provision and this is due to hard work and dedication of hours behind closed doors. As much as I know all the hard work has paid off for the children's happiness and enjoyment throughout their days at Panda's I am looking forward to evenings and weekends enjoying my family time! I thoroughly enjoy my role as Panda Leader and I hope to continue offering a service which is warm and welcoming which the children will develop in a rich learning environment. Throughout this half term we are learning about People who help us and learning how people's roles around us are important and special. We are having a visit from the Firefighters hopefully! We will be talking about staying safe and how people can help one another throughout their days.

We are also going to be discussing Going on Holiday, at the beach, under the sea, and pirates. We will have lots of activities going throughout these weeks so please, please read notices and check your child's bag for letters, etc.

We are hopefully going to take some children to Sprouts to do some planting. Not all the children will be attending at one time due to the health and safety measures at Sprouts.

If you have any forms or Panda Plus books to hand in to Mel please have them ready on arrival as it's not always easy to check all the children's bags.



Ideas Spot

Outdoor Fun

The children have been thoroughly enjoying playing outdoors when the weather has been on our side. We have been using a role play fruit shop, re-enacting the story of the 3 little pigs, and developing our skills with hand painting, painting the fence with paint brushes, and drawing around each other's bodies. I have been able to put number cards and pictures within the garden and this has instantly created a richer learning environment for the children.

Why not:

Encourage your child to be independent for instance when dressing or undressing, pouring drinks, making their bed, tidying away, fastening coats and shoes.

Happy Birthday to:

Kennedy (3)
Hayden (3)
Dexter (4)
Amelia (4)



Quote from the children

Panda Child A: *Can I play with you?*

Panda Child B: *Oh yeah! That's an excellent idea, come on!!!*

Love them!



Tiny Tots and Sticky Mitts

Welcome back to the second half of the Summer Term at Sticky Mitts and Tiny Tots. This term at our Monday and Wednesday sessions we continue to concentrate on summer themed craft, building on the bumble bees we made last half term with ladybirds, butterflies, flowers and of course Father's Day cards for the important men in your children's lives. I hope the children enjoyed having the water tray out at the end of last half term - the Hall floor certainly got a good wash - hopefully when the warm weather returns we will be able to repeat the experience!

Finally, congratulations to Michaela and Steve Jordan on the arrival of their daughter Rosemary Anne, a little sister for Norah and Edith - we look forward to welcoming Rosemary to one of our sessions soon.

Thanks - Sharron



Dates for your Diary:

Curry Night: Fri 13th June 8pm at Sizzling Plate. Please write your name on the list provided in Panda Playgroup, Sticky Mitts and Tiny Tots if you wish to attend.

Panda Plus Pre-school 2nd school visit: Tue 17th June PLEASE NOTE CORRECTED DATE

Quiz Night: Sat 21st June 8pm at Howell Hall, Cop Youth Club – tickets available @ Panda, Tiny Tots & Sticky Mitts.

Copmanthorpe Carnival: Sat 28th June, 12 noon.

Meet at 11.45am by the stage for opening ceremony.

1pm – mass sponsored Wake Up Shake Up!

Sports Day: Tue 1st July 9- 10am. All children welcome.

Please ensure sensible footwear is worn.

Panda Plus Leaver's Assembly: Tue 15th July. More info soon.

Committee meeting: Wed 10th September 8pm at The Royal Oak (venue TBC). Everyone welcome

AGM: - Wed 22nd October. Venue TBC.



Fundraising Target for 2013/14: £4,500

Raised so far: £3,000. Still to raise this term: £1,500



We have a Facebook Closed Group "Panda Playgroup, Sticky Mitts & Tiny Tots - Parents & Carers Group" which allows Staff, Committee, Parents & Carers to have a more confidential area in which to discuss the sessions or their children. If you would like to join please search for us and ask to become a Member.

You can also find us at:



www.pandaplaygroup.co.uk

easyfundraising.org.uk

Shop online to raise funds!

Panda Playgroup, Sticky Mitts and Tiny Tots have received nearly £22 since 01/04/2014 simply from our supporters shopping online!

We earn the cash donations when people register to support us and shop online through the site. It's a really simple process, all you have to do is:

- Register at www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- When you're asked to choose your cause, select Panda Playgroup - Sticky Mitts and Tiny Tots
- Get shopping - it couldn't be easier!

There are over 3,000 online retailers available, including Amazon, Sainsbury, eBay, Boots and The Book People and all will give a small percentage of what's been spent back to Panda Playgroup to say thank you for shopping with them.

But we only have 8 registered users!

We know it is easy to forget, but there is a "Find & Remind" toolbar (go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/raise-more/find-and-remind/ to download it) which once installed into your web browser, prompts you each time you visit a partner retailer's website, so you don't have to remember!

Please spread the word to family and friends (particularly Sainsbury's online shoppers!). It's essential we find ways to raise funds without asking parents to put their hands in their pockets or give up their time. This is one easy way to help raise vital funds without costing you a penny or taking up any of your time.

Just 2 extra clicks and your weekly online Sainsbury's shop can raise us 50p a week, or £25/year!

Appeal for resources! – Thanks!



CD Player – for children to use.

Milk crates, car tyres,

shelves or telephone stands



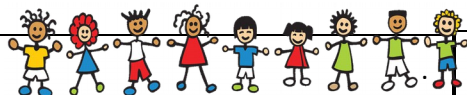
Just a reminder to ensure your child arrives wearing sun cream and has a hat.



How to get in touch

Panda mobile	(session times only)	07758 668107
Mel Suttill	(out of hours)	07725 695805
Margaret Webster	(Chair)	07957 208212
Janice Lofthouse	(Admissions)	01904 701077

Committee News



Wonderful staff! Once again we'd like to say a huge thank you to all our staff for all their hard work and preparation to ensure that our children have a fabulous time at our Playgroup, at Panda and at Sticky Mitts and Tiny Tots. All our sessions require a huge amount of planning and preparation behind the scenes and we all owe the staff a huge thank you for their hard work and dedication to Panda. I hope the staff enjoy the last few weeks of the academic year and relax and enjoy the summer break with their own families.



New Pandas: We're very pleased to launch our new Panda logos: our main Panda as well as Sticky Mitts Panda and Tiny Tots Panda. It makes me smile every time I see our colourful new pandas. Thank you to Phoebe Cheeseby for donating her time and skills.



New staff uniforms have been ordered so you'll soon see the staff sporting their uniforms with the new Panda logo and with a warm fleece to keep them dry and warm when setting/packing up and standing on the door.



Facebook offers from The Annexe Coffee Shop: Following the info about this in the last newsletter, over the next couple of months we're teaming up with The Annexe Coffee Shop. Each week on Facebook (posted Sunday evening) we will have an Annexe voucher for you. Either print it out or show them it on your phone. Please ensure that you take advantage of these offers in order to encourage The Annexe to continue their sponsorship of our playgroup.

AGM: Our AGM is planned for Wed 22nd Oct. We'll be looking to recruit a new Chair and Treasurer, possibly a new Secretary (although we hope not) and general committee members. It's a requirement for Panda Playgroup that we have a committee of a minimum of 5 people including a Chair, Treasurer and Secretary in order to operate. If we ever can't meet these minimum requirements our Playgroup would have to close. I'm sure it won't come to that and am only telling you now so that you all appreciate how important it is that some of you step up to these rewarding roles in October. We'd ensure that you had a thorough hand-over from the out-going committee members and all the information you need to be able to fulfill and enjoy the roles. If you'd like any further information at any time please speak to me or any of the committee pictured here:

Thank you. **Marge**



Fundraising (For further information about any of our fundraising events and initiatives please visit our web site):

Copmanthorpe Carnival: Saturday 28th June noon-

6pm: Enjoy the children singing as they open the carnival at noon along with the other pre-school children in the village to a rousing chorus of 'The Wheels on the Bike'. They're already practicing hard & looking forward to their big performance. Please meet near the stage by 11.45am. At 1pm we're hoping (subject to confirmation) to get the village together for a **mass sponsored 'Wake Up Shake Up'**. Please donate £1 to join in with this fun and innovative event. Panda himself will be on stage joining in so come & support him & join your children as they have some fun. We'll pass donation buckets around the carnival during this event. **On our stall** we'll have face painting, tattoos & games for all ages. Hook-a-duck, lucky dip, guess the birthday of the build-a-bear & pin the horn on the bike and for the grown-ups - bag-a-bottle & a raffle. **Donations:** Please could you donate any small toys/party bag fillers you've lying around for our lucky dip and any bottles (alcohol, soft drinks, toiletries, washing up liquid, ketchup etc.) for the bag-a-bottle game. We're still trying hard to get donations of bottles from businesses in the area. **Volunteers:** We'll be asking for volunteers to help man the stall, face-paint & wear the panda outfit. Sign up sheets will soon be out at Panda's, Sticky Mitts Tiny Tots. All help very much appreciated.



Smarties tubes - reminder:

Please bring to Panda/Tiny Tots/Sticky Mitts when full or in the last week of term with whatever is in them.



Quiz Night: Sat 21st Jun 8pm, Howell Hall. Help us to make this event a big success. Buy a ticket (or find a group of friends and buy tickets for you all) to come along and pit your wits against Ruth's Quiz writing skills. Who will win the cash prize? Licensed Bar and raffle, prizes Yorkshire CC tickets, signed LUFC picture, tennis lesson with Jack Wood, free badminton @The Rec and England goodies.

Charity Cookery Demo at Ye Old Sun Inn (yeoldsuninn.co.uk). We've booked a demo for Mon 29th Sept and will start selling tickets for this in September.

Toy Sale: Our next sale is 18th Oct 2014 and we can sell bigger items throughout the year via Facebook. If you're planning to clear out any toys over the summer (or make the most of a rainy day to do so) please remember Panda and donate any items for our sale. For more info or to donate toys please email pandatoyale@yahoo.co.uk.