

## Teddy Bears Preschool

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Teddy Bears. We hope you all had a wonderful summer.

We have lots of exciting events and dates for the diary. An email was sent out last week detailing a few of our main fundraising events. Please let us know if you did not receive the email.

Starting the new term, the children have been busy working on crafts of Old McDonalds Farm for our display at Newbury Show. Please do come along to visit us, 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> September, in the Educational Tent. We always welcome and very much appreciate your ongoing support.

The Newbury Show sets us off perfectly with this terms theme of Farm to Fork. We will be looking at Farmyards, harvesting crops to exploring different foods.

### Announcements

Firstly, we would like to welcome some new families Mya, Harry, Freddie, Max and Erin Mae who have joined Teddy Bears this Autumn Term.

The Teddy Bears team welcomes back Suzanne Nutley as Treasurer and Lesley Evans as Administrator.

We would like to wish Sharon Moore all the best on her new adventures. Sadly, Sharon will be leaving us Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September. You will be greatly missed.

Huge congratulations to Emma Gee on the birth of her baby Danny.

### Annual General Meeting (AGM)

As you know Teddy Bears is run by a committed team of parents and of course the fabulous staff. This year's AGM will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> Sept at 7.30pm at the village hall, where we will be reviewing this year and appointing new members to the committee. We hope to see as many of you as possible there.

### Spaces

We currently have spaces for the term, if a younger sibling is approaching preschool age or if you know of anybody looking to enroll their child at a preschool, please do ask them to get in touch with us.

For anybody introducing a new family that enrolls with us at Teddy Bears, you will receive a £10 voucher of your choice, as a little token of our appreciation. You will receive your voucher once the new family has committed to paying the administration free.

### Friday Mornings

Our Friday morning sessions are a wonderful way to start your child learning their phonics in a small group through play. We have noticed a vast difference in the children that have already been attending! Please enquire if you would like a place for your child.



### Future Dates:

**16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> September**  
Newbury Show

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September**  
McMillian Coffee morning  
9am - 11am  
(cake donations welcome)

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September**  
Teddy Bears AGM  
7.15pm for 7.30pm start

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**  
Halloween Party  
4pm - 6pm £5 per child

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> October**  
Half term

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October**  
Return back to preschool

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November**  
Bags2school 9am collection

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**  
Nativity Play and Party

**21<sup>st</sup> December - 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018**  
Christmas Holidays

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018**  
Return back to preschool

**12<sup>th</sup> Feb - 19<sup>th</sup> Feb**  
Half term

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018**  
Easter Egg Hunt  
1.30pm - 3.30pm £5 per ticket

**28<sup>th</sup> May - 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018**  
Half term

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June**  
Return back to preschool

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018**  
Summer Fete  
12pm - 3pm

**19<sup>th</sup> July 2018**  
Summer Holidays begin

## Extra Sessions

Please do let us know as soon as possible if you would like to make any changes or would like additional days.

We do have available space on a Friday morning for the older children, so please do let us know if you would like them to attend.

## Overdue Payment Policy

We now reserve the right to charge an additional weekly £15 overdue payment fee, if unpaid within the 28 days. Thanking you in anticipation for working with us and ensuring that invoices are paid on time. All invoicing enquires will be dealt with by the Treasurer going forward. Please ensure any payments are in a labelled sealed envelope.

## ECAT – Every Child A Talker

Teddy Bears is part of Every Child A Talker (ECAT) initiative within West Berkshire. Allowing us to monitor and track a child's social and communication skills. Reading and talking with your child is a very important aspect of a child's development. Please take advantage of borrowing books from preschool. Every third Tuesday the library bus comes to preschool. The children are encouraged to go out to the bus and self-select books, which we can look at together and read to them. We try to link other books to the topic we are looking at for the term.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's speech and/or language development, please discuss this with your child's keyworker.

Thatcham Children's Centre offers a Speech and Language drop in session every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month 9:15 – 11:45am.

## Christmas Hamper

Christmas seems a long way off, but it is only 102 days!!!

To get you in the festive spirit we will be having a Christmas raffle with the chance to win a Christmas hamper. Tickets will be available to purchase from Preschool and Panda Club, after the October half term. Tickets will be priced at £1.00 per ticket. Proceeds will go to the Preschool.

The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

We are looking for parents to kindly donate a prize to go in the hamper. For example, Christmas pudding, Christmas crackers, Brandy sauce, a bottle of mulled wine, mince pies, chutney, bottle of wine, cranberry sauce, box of chocolates, biscuits.

## Christmas card Fundraiser

We will be running the Christmas card fundraiser again this year. Staff will work with the children to produce beautiful sparkly artwork at the beginning of the autumn term in time to have your orders back to you just after half term. Aside from the Christmas cards there are also all sorts of gifts to purchase with your child's artwork on it. For more information please speak with Kerri. A percentage of the proceeds will be given to Teddy Bears Preschool.

## Christmas Nativity and Party

The Nativity play will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> December, at Boxford Church. Full details to follow.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



## Preschool trips

We have some lovely trips lined up for this term. We will be visiting a café Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September and Eddie Katz Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October. If your child/ren are in on these days can you please ensure a highbacked car seat is left with a member of the team at drop off please.

## PE Kit

If your child/ren attends on a Tuesday afternoon, can we ask that your child/ren has a PE kit (jogging bottoms, t-shirt, sweatshirt, trainers and a change of socks) in a named bag. We do encourage the children to change themselves in preparation of school.

## Committee

If you would like more information with regards to becoming a committee member then please speak to the Preschool Manager, Sarah Phillips.

We are always looking for new members to join our committee. Without a committee, the Preschool cannot run.

## Ofsted

We are delighted that we received Good rating from Ofsted. If you would like to read the report, please visit <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/EY478571>

## Food

Please be mindful of those with allergies when preparing your child's pack lunch. We ask that nuts are avoided. We do have an oven and a microwave for heating food. We offer children a healthy snack during snack times, but we do not provide or make food for lunches. Please note that if you are providing grapes or tomatoes for your child they are cut in half length ways.



Please like our Teddy Bears and Panda Club Facebook pages to follow all our posts regarding events.

