

# THE OWL PRE-SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2009



Hello and a warm welcome to all our new children joining us this term. We hope they and their families will enjoy many happy hours. The children have settled extremely well and are happy and engaged with all our activities. All the children will be working towards the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This Framework sets the Standards for Learning, Development and Care for Children.

As explained at our Welcome Meetings each child will have their own Keyperson who will develop a secure trusting relationship with each child and respond to their stage of development. In partnership with parents they will observe and plan for each child's likes, interests and individual needs. This will be recorded in their Foundation Stage Book. Although you are welcome to visit to see your child's Keyperson at any time we will be offering each parent the chance to visit in November/December, January/February and May/June so that we can share information and discuss your child's time with us. Please keep an eye on our notice board and Website for further information and forthcoming events.

Our Committee are planning several fund raising events for the rest of the year. One date to put in your diary is our very popular Halloween Disco. We will soon be selling tickets and all friends and family are welcome. We sold out very quickly last year so do make sure you buy your tickets early as the numbers are limited. Our community pre-school is a charity and all our funds have to be raised by fund-raising activities each year. We hope this year to put the money towards new equipment for our garden and outside play. The success and continuing improvement in the facilities and activities we can offer your children is due solely to the continuing hard work and support from our committee, parents and friends.



*Enjoying our day at the Forest School*

As the summer showed the weather is very unpredictable and as we shall be using our outside play garden each session we would appreciate it if you would send your child in suitable clothing and shoes. (Names in coats, *Please* and ensure the clothes also offer protection from the sun such as long sleeved tea-shirts and hats should we have a late summer).

The topic for this term is 'Welcome' and next term is 'Celebrations'. Please bring in any items or pictures we can share or display on our Sharing Board. Keep an eye on our notice board for ideas and songs that you can share with your child at home.

As many of you know we are a member of The Leading Early Years Team in Kent. Many Early Years Practitioners have already visited our pre-school to see how a setting within

school grounds is run, how we organise our curriculum planning (our Leuven planning is especially noted) and how a session is assessed and evaluated. We are especially pleased to now liaise with all the pre-schools and schools in our area and all our visitors have commented on how happy, well behaved and enthusiastic all our children are. We will try to inform parents when we have visitors but please do not hesitate to ask if we forget!!

We are very happy to welcome back Mrs. Jane Gooch who is a very experienced early years practitioner. She will be one of our Supervisors and a member of the Senior Management Team. Mrs Mason will be returning as our Relief practitioner.

## **School's Corner**

The building work for the Children's Centre sited in the grounds of Shears Green Infants School has commenced this term. This will raise many Health and Safety Issues and we would be grateful for your co-operation during this time. Please arrive and leave by the Junior gates and keep a watchful eye on the children during these busy times. We would especially like to thank all parents for their co-operation during the current building works which has had such an impact on our access to the school site. We will inform parents of our new entrance route when built.

## **WISE OWL'S REMINDERS**

**Please inform the Pre-School if someone different (from the person who brought them) will be collecting your child.** We get some puzzled looks from Dads and Nannies when we query who they are. It has been decided that if the Pre-School is not told of the name of the person collecting your child then the child will **not** be allowed to leave the Pre-School until the Parents/ Carer or Emergency Contact person has been contacted.

Parents and children have been very pleased with the new logo tee-shirts and sweatshirts. As they are the same it would be a great help if you would put your child's name in each. If you would like to purchase anymore please see Mrs. Wessel.

We are all looking forward to a sunny and busy term helping your child learn through play. If you have any questions or queries or would just like to visit please pop in to see the Supervisors or a member of staff at any time.

An example of our morning and afternoon sessions routine. These are planned having regard to the framework of the new Early Years Foundation Stage but each activity can change according to the path of play the children wish to take.

Each activity is planned within our curriculum to include all children for the stage of development they have reached.

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| 8.45 or 12.30 | Arrival   |
| 9.00 or 12.45 | Greeting Time - this is a time to talk about the activities on offer that day, to share ideas and anything the children wish to talk about or show and to answer the register. This enhances a child's self-esteem and encourages listening skills. |
| 9.10 or 12.50 | Adult led and child initiated activities both indoors and outdoors.   |
| 10.00 or 1.30 | Sharing Time - adult led activities (these could be about colours, shapes, number nursery rhymes, songs, poems. These activities also help to enhance their listening skills. And encourage a sense of belonging.                                   |
| 10.15 or 1.45 | Snack time - this could be in a small group or the whole group. This encourages social skills and language development.   |
| 10.15 or 1.45 | Adult led and child initiated activities both indoors and outdoors.   |
| 11.25 or 3.10 | Circle Time - a time to engage in group activities to enhance social skills, language development and listening skills.   |
| 11.45 or 3.30 | Home time   |

**Our website**  
[www.owlpreschool.co.uk](http://www.owlpreschool.co.uk)