

Holmes Chapel Community Pre-school

NEWSLETTER

Welcome!

Welcome back to the Spring term. We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas and a well-deserved rest! We'd like to extend a special welcome to all the new children who have recently joined us. We're sure you will enjoy your time at pre-school and make lots of new friends.

Term dates 2010

Spring term

- ❖ Half-term: 15-19 February
- ❖ Monday 22 February - Friday 26 March

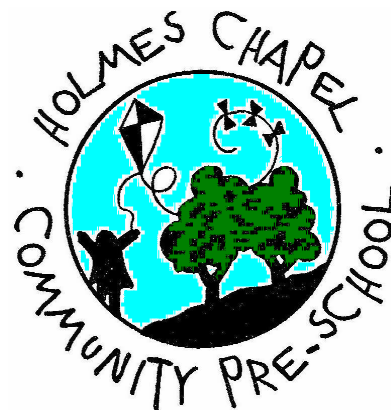
Summer term

- ❖ Monday 12 April - Friday 28 May
- ❖ Bank-holiday: Monday 3 May
- ❖ Half-term: 31 May - 4 June
- ❖ Monday 7 June - Friday 16 July

THANK YOU for your understanding!



Although the children enjoyed the recent Arctic weather, it proved to be an enormous challenge for the pre-school, with frozen pipes, a leaking hot water heater, and a power cut to contend with. We offer our sincere thanks to Dawn and Mark Caine-Bryant, Andy Mitchell and Peter Goode, as well as the staff, for their hard work and commitment in ensuring that pre-school could open as much as possible. Unfortunately we did have to close for two days, which was unavoidable, and done so for the health and safety of the children and staff. Thank you all for your understanding during this time.



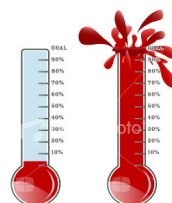
...and THANK YOU for your support!

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Fair. The children seemed to enjoy themselves, especially those who went to see Father Christmas, and we managed to raise £396.90! Along with previous fundraising activities the money has allowed us to purchase a number of items for the pre-school:

- ❖ Winter pansies for the entrance to the building and for the children to plant in containers in the garden
- ❖ Digital photo frame allowing the children to relate back to what they have been doing previously
- ❖ New printer enabling photos to be taken, printed and displayed on the same day (as per the 'playing in the snow' ones, which are currently on display.).

Money raised with your support also allowed us to pay for the Children's Christmas party, including the very popular and very funny magician, and gifts from Father Christmas himself.

We are always looking at ways to improve the pre-school. Our current project is the much needed replacement of the flooring. Your continued support is therefore much appreciated. We can never raise too much money!!



Spring Term 2010

Fundraising dates for your diary

We have several fundraising events planned for the Spring and Summer terms, please read on and make a note of the dates in your diary.

❖ Easter parade: Saturday 20 March, 2pm onwards

A fancy dress parade for pre-school and local children through the village, with Easter eggs for all children who are dressed up. Refreshments/cakes will be on sale at pre-school after the parade.

❖ Easter egg hunt

Search for Easter eggs in the windows of local shops. Prizes will be awarded to those finding the most eggs!



❖ Sponsored walk, treasure hunt and family picnic: Sunday 16 May, 11am onwards

This will take place around Brereton Heath and proves very popular every year. It's a great day out, fun for all the family, and an opportunity to meet some of the other families from pre-school.

❖ Summer Fair

Date to be finalised soon.

❖ New ideas?

If you have any new ideas, or if you would like to get involved in fundraising for the pre-school, please speak to Ali Smethurst, Jo Stewart, Cat Woodham or Nicola Goode.

Other fundraising activities

School Link books

These catalogues contain a range of competitively priced books for all ages. Pre-school receives vouchers from any orders, which are used to buy more books for the children.

Yellow Moon catalogues

Look out for these catalogues containing craft ideas, children's games, cards etc. You order direct and the goods are delivered to your home. Pre-school makes up to 25% commission, so please share the catalogue with family and friends!

Web shop

Our pre-school has a web shop; if you purchase goods from any of the household names on the site (e.g. Early Learning Centre, M&S), it will generate income for the pre-school. It won't cost you any more than if you were to purchase goods direct. Please give it a try at www.buy.at/hccps.

Name tapes

Don't forget to order your name tapes, handy for those starting school in September! Look out for the order form in your post pocket.

Your pre-school needs YOU!



Would you like to meet new people?

Would you like to give something back to your community?

Do you want to improve the running of the pre-school?

If you answered 'Yes' to any of these then the pre-school committee would like to hear from you.

The committee consists of volunteers who organise the fundraising events, employ the staff and maintain the building, as well as much more. Many of our current members have been on board for a number of years and are looking to step down this year. We therefore need people to fill their shoes. If you are interested in volunteering for the committee, please speak to Dawn Caine-Bryant (544286) the current Chair.

Remember, without a committee there is no pre-school.

Please remember...

- ❖ To send your child with a named bag containing a complete change of clothes.
- ❖ To donate any old clothes to pre-school please! We always need spare clothes for both boys and girls.
- ❖ That for health and safety reasons the staff ask that children's lunch packs should contain an ice pack to keep the food fresh and, if grapes are included, they should be cut in half to avoid choking.
- ❖ To inform pre-school of any change of contact details. Please speak to Linda Sandbach (549755) the registration secretary.

Pre-school uniform

Did you know that our pre-school has a uniform? Good quality t-shirts and jumpers with the pre-school logo on are available at a very reasonable price. Please speak to Vicky Sutcliffe (537303) for more information.

Pre-school places

We still have vacancies for new children so please tell your friends and relatives with children of pre-school age! Please contact Linda Sandbach (549755) for availability enquiries.

Important dates for your diary

❖ **Committee meeting: 1 March**
If you are interested in finding out more about what the committee does, or in getting involved, why not come along to the next meeting on 1 March at 7.30pm? For further details speak to any of our committee members.

❖ **Key worker evening: 15 March**
This is an invaluable opportunity to meet your child's key worker and discuss their progress by looking through the work in their diaries. Please do your best to attend as a lot of hard work goes into the diaries. Further information will shortly be available in your child's post pocket.