

Holmes Chapel Community Pre-school

NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to the summer term, particularly to those parents and children who have recently joined us.

We're sure you'll enjoy your time at pre-school and make lots of new friends.

Term dates 2010

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

Autumn term

- ❖ Monday 6 September - Friday 22 October
- ❖ Half-term: 25 - 29 October
- ❖ Monday 1 November - Friday 17 December

Important changes to the government grant from September

You may be aware that from September the government grant for pre-school children aged 3 and 4 years increases from 12.5 hours per week to 15 hours per week, for 38 weeks of the year.

To enable you to make maximum use of the grant, whilst retaining flexibility, we have revised the times of the pre-school sessions.

From **September**, new sessions times will be as follows:

- ❖ 9am-12pm
- ❖ 9am-1pm
- ❖ 12pm-3pm
- ❖ 9am-3pm.

The above creates a combination of 3-, 4- and 6-hour sessions within which to use your grant. Note, you will also be able to use your grant to pay for lunch club.

Further information will be provided in due course.



Can we fix it? Yes we can...with your help!

We were thrilled with the response to our appeal for new committee members, but we still need to recruit a **maintenance officer**.

If you, or somebody you know, is interested in volunteering for the position then please speak to Dawn Caine-Bryant (544286) the current Chair.



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 de Sá (549755) for availability enquiries.

Summer Term 2010

For parents whose children will be starting school in September...

❖ Meet the reception class teachers

An opportunity for parents to chat informally to Mrs Booth and Miss Smallwood, the reception school teachers at Holmes Chapel primary school. Further details will be provided in your child's post pocket.

The children can also expect a visit from the teachers during some of the pre-school sessions so they can be introduced in a familiar setting.

❖ PE sessions

These will take place after half-term for pre-school leavers only on:
Monday 7 June; Wednesday 16 June, Monday 21 June, Wednesday 30 June and Monday 5 July.



Please pack a separate bag for your child containing pumps/trainers, shorts/leggings and a t-shirt.

❖ Visit to the fire station

The pre-school leavers will have the chance to tour the Holmes Chapel fire station on Monday 24 May!

We wish our pre-school leavers every success in their future and hope that they are happy in their chosen schools. We would also like to thank you for your support whilst your child has attended the pre-school, it has been much appreciated.

Please remember...

- ❖ To include a named bag containing a change of clothes; please include a sun hat for when the sun finally appears!
- ❖ To donate any old clothes please for both boys and girls.
- ❖ To inform pre-school of any change of contact details. Please speak to Linda de Sá (549755) the registration secretary.

THANK YOU for your support!

We'd like to express a big thank you to everyone who supported the Easter parade. Despite the wet weather we managed to raise £218! This has gone towards replacing the flooring inside pre-school that was urgently needed.

Your continued support is much appreciated and we have **several fundraising events planned**. These events can be a great way of meeting other families from pre-school so come along and join in the fun!

SPONSORED WALK 2010

❖ Sunday 16 May, 11am-1pm

A sponsored walk, treasure hunt and family picnic will take place around Brereton Heath. Although the main event will run from 11am-1pm, the walk can be done at any time. Bring along a picnic and enjoy a great day out for all the family! Look out for the sponsor forms in your child's post pocket.

Summer Fair

❖ Sunday 4 July, 11am-2pm

Join us at the Youth Centre for an action-packed summer fair!

- BBQ (meat by Phil Davies)
- Face-painting, bouncy castle
- Peach photography
- Luxury food hamper raffle
- Cakes, crafts and much more!

Curry night and disco

❖ Friday 16 July, 7.30pm-12pm



Boogie the night away at the Victoria Club and finish off the evening with a curry courtesy of Shaz Balti.



Tickets cost £15 and are available from Jo Guy (07748 940748) or any member of the pre-school committee.

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!

Tesco and Sainsbury vouchers

Please continue to post your vouchers in the box inside pre-school.

Name tapes

Don't forget to order your name tapes, handy for those starting school in September! Order forms available from pre-school.

...and finally CONGRATULATIONS!



...to Pippa Griffin who has recently passed her level 5 qualification! She has one more year to

complete before becoming an Early Years Professional. Pippa is incredibly dedicated and we are delighted for her!

Important dates for your diary

- **Tempest photography: 17 May**
Tempest will be in pre-school at 9am to take a group photograph of the pre-school leavers only.
- **Key worker evening: 14 June**
This is an invaluable opportunity to meet your child's key worker and discuss their progress by looking through the work in their diaries. Further information will be available nearer the time in your child's post pocket.