

October Newsletter 2016

It has been an absolute pleasure welcoming all of our new little ones to Pre-School! The weather has been very kind to us and the children have been making the most of it too! We have already been out on lots of lovely walks with our Forest School sessions picking Blackberries and playing in our mud kitchen. Bart the Bear will be visiting you all soon and we look forward to hearing all about your adventures!

Our AGM is on Thursday 20th October at 09.30. We would love to see some new faces there so if you would like to learn more about what goes on behind the scenes and our fundraising efforts please do come along!

Raffle donations

We would like to make up some lovely festive hampers for our Fun Day.

Last year our raffle alone raised over £300 and fundraising really is more important than ever this year so if you have a spare bottle of wine or box of chocolates or just something festive we would be really grateful of it to make up some gorgeous hampers!

All donations can be left in the office. Thankyou!

Festive Fun Day Sat 5th November 10:30-1:00

We are busy making lots of lovely crafts for you at the Festive Fayre and planning some really festive activities! There will be lots of fun things to do as well as some lovely stalls with lots of gorgeous gift ideas all at reasonable prices. If you would like a stall yourself please do let us know.

We will soon be sending out flyers with more information and aim to give you all more than one so you can pass them on to your friends and family! There will be another bumper raffle on the day and raffle tickets will shortly be going out in book bags for you to purchase in advance and again share with your family and friends.

If you are able to help with the event in any way we would love to hear from you so please do let us know! Thank you.

Pre-School Photos

Thursday 13th October 9:00-11:00

Our Pre-School photos take place Thursday 13th October. Photos are normally available within three weeks.

If your child is not in session they are still more than welcome to come in and have their photo taken, just come along!



Co-op Community Fund

We have been lucky enough to be selected as a one of the Co-op Community Fund causes. Every time Co-op members choose Co-op branded products and services and use their Co-op Membership card (subject to Membership T&Cs) 1% of what you spend will go to your chosen cause.

We would be so grateful if you could please nominate Barton-le-Clay Pre-School as your chosen cause, you can do this on-line by logging into <http://www.coop.co.uk/membership/local-community-fund>.

A **Big Thankyou** goes out to **Phill Hemmings at RLP Surveyors in Hitchin** for all their hard work so far in helping us with ideas to re-configure the old caretakers' bungalow which sits next to Pre-School. Along with Central Bedfordshire Council, we hope to be able to convert the bungalow into a new site and therefore increase the number of children we take care of along with preparing for the increase of funded hours the government is currently proposing as from September 2017.



Reflecting on Quality

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Barton-le-Clay Pre-School, Our space, Manor Road, Barton-le-Clay, Bedfordshire, MK45 4NS, Tel: 01582 883 238

Web: www.bartonpreschool.org, Email: bartonpreschool@aol.com,  Like us on Facebook - bartonpreschoolfundraising

30 Funded Hours Entitlement – Update Eligible parents will be able to access an additional 15 hours of free childcare from Sept 2017, details regarding eligibility are yet to be confirmed by Government. The new entitlement is definitely coming so we will do our best to make it work and work well. We will continue to keep you posted however if you have any further queries please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff. Thank you!

Button batteries

Please be aware of the dangers of children swallowing button batteries which can be found in toys, remote controls, calculators and small electronic devices. To avoid any incidents make sure that toys and other products using button batteries, such as small electronic devices, have lockable battery compartments. This should mean that they are safe for children to use as the batteries are locked away.

Term Dates

Autumn Term

From **Tuesday 6 September 2016**

To **Friday 16 December 2016**

Half Term w/c Monday 24 October 2016

Monday 31st October - INSET DAY

SCHOOL CLOSED

Spring Term

From **Wednesday 4 January 2017**

To **Tuesday 4 April 2017**

Half Term w/c Monday 13 February 2017

Summer Term

From **Wednesday 19 April 2017**

To **Friday 21 July 2017**

Half Term w/c Monday 29 May 2017

Bank Holiday Monday 1 May 2017

Starting school in September 2017?

Children born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 should apply for a Reception Year place in the Starting School 2017 round. Applications must be made before 15th January 2017. Schools must offer your child a full time place in September following your child's fourth birthday if that is your wish. However, your child does not have to attend school full time until he or she is of statutory age. For more information and to apply for a place via Central Beds Council please visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/school/admissions/2017/starting-school/overview.aspx

Help
Wanted

Parent Helpers

Thank you to all of the parents that have kindly come into Pre-School recently.

We would love to see more parent helpers at Pre-School. Even if you just have an hour free it would really make a difference to the children's time here at Pre-School, they love meeting and playing with new people.

Hope to see you soon!

Healthy Eating at Pre-School

Thank you to everyone who is embracing our Healthy Eating Policy here at Pre-School and not including crisps / chocolate / cakes / sweets and juices in your child's packed lunch.



No Scarves at Pre-School

Just a reminder for your child's safety **not** to send them into Pre-School with a scarf as the weather gets cooler. Thank you!

Sickness and Diarrhoea

Children are not permitted to return to pre-school until **48 hours after their last episode**. This will minimise the risk of infection to the other children.

POLICIES AND COMPLAINTS

Barton-le-Clay Pre School has a very comprehensive set of policies that govern how we run the Pre School. These are regularly checked and updated where necessary. Unfortunately we do not have the space to display the complete policy folder, a small selection of policies can be found on our Notice Board in the 'Our Space' foyer. You are very welcome to request to see the complete folder and read the policies at any time, please request this from a member of staff. Equally should there be any element of Pre School that you are unhappy with we would urge you to speak to a member of staff or committee. All of the committee's contact details are on the notice board in the foyer. We value all kinds of feedback. Thank you.



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