



SEAMER PRE-SCHOOL **Autumn Term - September 2018 – News**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a new year with Seamer Pre-school. We would like especially to extend a warm welcome to our new children and their families; we hope you all enjoy your time with us.

We will keep you informed as best we can by sending out these newsletters periodically, they will often contain some important dates and reminders, please take note of these. Put important dates in your diaries so that you are less likely to forget what's coming up.



EXCITING STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS



We are delighted to announce that Laura and James are expecting their second baby in February and will be taking maternity leave at the end of the autumn term. We are also very excited to announce that Danni and Tyler are expecting their first baby in March. We are extremely pleased for them both of the girls and wish them health and happiness through their pregnancies and beyond.

We have also received the news that after 17 years working with us, Donna has taken the decision to hang up her bucket and spade and retire. I'm sure she'll find plenty to keep her busy. We wish her well too.



On the back of all that our trustees have been very busy with a recruitment campaign. We have advertised for new staff to join our team, we are currently looking at a number of candidates who have expressed an interest in joining us. Interviews will be held in October and we will keep you informed as to who the lucky people are. We would however like to welcome the first of our new staff, Ella Carr, to the team, we hope she enjoys her time with us. Ella has recently qualified as a Level 3 practitioner and she is a mum to 2 young children.

PARENTAL AGREEMENTS + 30 HOUR FUNDING

My thanks go to those of you who have returned your contracts/parental agreements. Early Years Funding is dependent on the correct completion of the forms...including passport or birth certificate numbers, national insurance numbers etc. Failure to return the forms incomplete could adversely affect your child's funding.

Please ask if you are unsure about the forms or have any funding queries.

To check whether you are eligible for the 30 hours funding and/or to check if you could be eligible for a range of government childcare offers, please search Childcare Choices at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>

Remember you need to reconfirm your eligibility every three months, you will be prompted by a text message and/or email four weeks before your reconfirmation deadline.

INTERNET BANKING - DIRECT PAYMENTS

Those of you who wish to pay your invoices by direct bank transfer can do so. Please find details below. This facility will help eliminate cheque or cash payments if you choose to use it. But please let us know if it is your intention to pay using this method.

When you set up a transfer - could you please use your child's name as the reference for the payment.

E.G. Tom Smith - October fees

Pre-school's bank details are:

Lloyds Bank

Account number: 00831725

Sort code 30-97-43

PRE-SCHOOL BAGS

Each child has been issued with a free blue Pre-school bag. These bags should be used in place of large bags/backpacks. We don't have a lot of space between pegs and therefore use of the blue bags would be very helpful. They should be brought to pre-school each session your child attends Pre-school.

ABSENCE FROM PRE-SCHOOL

Please could I ask that if you are going to keep your child away from Pre-school due to illness that as a matter of courtesy you inform us, so that we are not left wondering and it enables us to inform other parents within the group if there is a virus or other nasty bugs 'doing the rounds'. It is a good habit to get into as this will be a requirement when your child starts school. Children who have had a bout of diarrhoea should be kept away from Pre-school for the recommended 48 hours.

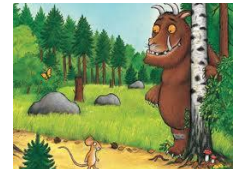
MORNING SESSION TIMES

Please could I remind everyone that children are booked in for early starts between 8 and 9am. Those parents who use this service are charged the group's hourly rate. There is no admission before 8am. The session time for everyone else is 9am. Entry before this time will not be allowed unless by prior arrangement.

BOOK SHARING INITIATIVE



All children have the opportunity to choose a book to take home and share with you the parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters or in fact anyone in the family. One book can be chosen by your son/daughter with you or whoever brings them to Pre-school and taken home to enjoy. On the return of the book another book can be borrowed. This can happen as many times as you wish as long as the book is returned.



This sharing of books will help to build pre-literacy skills as well as providing a special time and place for you to build a strong and loving relationship with your child.

We have lots of lovely books at Pre-school and though we will be sharing them with you we do expect that they be treated carefully, mended if damaged and returned for others to enjoy.

Please use your blue bags to put your child's book in.

OUTDOOR CLOTHING

As the weather gets colder the children will need warm coats, hats and gloves. Children do not feel the cold like adults and it is important that we protect them appropriately.

Lastly could you please ensure that your child's **uniform is named**, this will prevent any mix ups at home time.

PARENT'S MEETINGS - CHILDREN NEW TO PRE-SCHOOL THIS TERM

Thursday 15th NOVEMBER 4.15 onwards

We will be hosting a parent's evening for any families new to our setting this term, on Thursday 15th Nov. Here you'll be able to discuss how your child has settled and share any concerns you may have. Appointments must be arranged with your child's key person and can be made at mutually convenient times.



We will be hosting further meetings throughout the year for all our remaining children. However if you have any concerns regarding the care and education of your child please speak to your child's key person as soon as possible.

HOME / SCHOOL DIARIES

We introduced the diaries a couple of years ago into Pre-school and they have been very popular. They are a lovely way for you to support us in the work we do with your children. It has taken us a little while to prepare them for all our newest children however the majority are now ready for use. Those of you who are new to setting - your child's key person will hand you your child's book. Returning parents/carers, can find your books in the tray on the table in the entrance as you come into Pre-school. Once you have completed the diary at home could you please place it in the tray in the entrance hall.

PHOTOGRAPHER

Richard from Impressions Photography will be with us at the beginning of November (date to be confirmed) The session is open to **ALL** Pre-school children and their families, whether or not they attend on the day. Anyone with children at Primary school wishing to include them in the photo shoot would be best advised to seek permission from the head teacher and class teacher of the school concerned. Parents with work commitments will be given priority if necessary. Although purchase of the photos is not compulsory Richard would like to try and ensure that there is minimal waste. We will be asking in advance of the photo shoot whether you want to take advantage of the session. Don't worry if you can't be present staff will try to do a good job for you. The photo packs are very reasonably priced and make excellent Christmas presents. Richard is renowned for taking lovely photographs – I haven't seen a bad one yet!

PRIMARY SCHOOL REQUEST

We have been asked by Seamer and Irton CP School to encourage those of you who have not yet registered your children with them to do so as soon as possible, especially those of you with children who will start school in September 2019. They stress you still need to complete the appropriate forms online, but by letting the school know your intentions they can forward plan a little better.

Application for school places must be completed online by mid January. I would urge you to name at least two schools as your preferred schools as there have been cases where parents have not been allocated the school of their choice (for a number of reasons) and this has led to major upsets.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE ONLINE REGISTRATION SO AS TO AVOID PROBLEMS LATER ON.

PRE-CURSIVE WRITING

Please see the attached letter regarding this initiative.

MUSIC SESSIONS



We continue to host music sessions with Kathy Seabrook once a month. Kathy graduated from the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London having won the John Clifford Pettican Prize for orchestral playing. She has performed with the Scottish Opera, Glyndebourne Touring Opera and English National Ballet Orchestras. She is a founder member of the London Wind Quintet. Kathy now spends her time composing children's songs and running pre-school music sessions that are inspired by her sons, Danny, Adam and Ben.



INTERESTED IN WHAT GOES ON? WANT TO HELP? WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

If you answer yes to any of the above questions you might be the ideal person to help us make important decisions in the running of Pre-school. As a registered charity Pre-school relies on you the parents to help us make those important decisions.

A number of our parents both mums and dads whose children left us in July have now stepped down from their roles as trustees. Your help is now needed. If you think you might be interested and would like to know more then why not come along to one of our meetings. You will not be forced into making any decision until you have had a chance to make you mind up. The committee already has an acting Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Without your help the future of Pre-school could be at risk.....please think about it.



MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

PRE-SCHOOL CARDIGANS

We have looked into the possibility of introducing cardigans into our range of uniform. Three sizes are available 2/3years 3/4years and 5/6years. These are now available to order, they are priced at £10.75 each.

If you are interested in buying one, just see Deborah at Pre-school. Samples to try on are available at pre-school.

PRE-SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

LANDLINE - 01723 865617

MOBILE NUMBER - 07596 837365

If you have any concerns regarding any of the above please feel free to speak to me or any member of staff...we will try our very best to help.

Ginny Wilkinson

Pre-cursive writing

Many of our children have started to show an interest in forming the letters of their name. We have been advised by Seamer School that the format we are to encourage is the Pre-cursive style of writing. This style may seem alien to many of you, but we are assured that this style of writing is hugely successful.

Capital letters are formed in the traditional way....

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q
R S T U V W X Y Z

Whilst lower case letters are formed as follows:

a b c d e f g h i
j k l m n o p q r
s t u v w x y z

Please do not stress about this or force your child to start writing their name when they may not be ready or even showing any interest. To do so may have a negative impact on both them and you.



TERM DATES 2018 - 2019

PRE-SCHOOL OPENS MON 3 SEPTEMBER 2018

AUTUMN HALF-TERM

School closes Fri 26 October 2018

Re-opens Mon 5 November 2018

CHRISTMAS 2018

School closes Tues 18 Dec 2018

Christmas party day Wed 19 Dec 2018

(PLEASE NOTE: NORMAL SESSION TIMES DO NOT APPLY)

PRE-SCHOOL RE-OPENS MON 7 January 2019

SPRING HALF-TERM 2019

School closes Fri 22 Feb 2019

Re-opens Mon 4 March 2019

EASTER 2019

School closes Friday 12 April 2019

Re-opens Mon 29 April 2019

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 6 MAY 2019

SUMMER HALF-TERM 2019

School closes Fri 24 May 2019

Re-opens Mon 3 June 2019

SCHOOL CLOSSES 18 JULY 2019

LEAVERS PARTY + PRESENTATION Fri 19 JULY 2019

(PLEASE NOTE: NORMAL SESSION TIMES DO NOT APPLY)