



# SUMMER NEWSLETTER

June 2011

## PARENT PARTNERSHIP

We have decided to change the theme of our newsletter this term. Instead of general information and notices we will dedicate this issue to parent partnership throughout the setting. Giving you more information on how you can become more involved with your child's learning and development and the setting as a whole. We will signpost you to things throughout the nursery that you may have seen but have never fully understood their purpose.

Thank you to all those that attended our recent parents evening and returned feedback questionnaire's. We take on board all comments made, it is important that positive feedback is given to the staff as well as suggesting areas to develop. This development ensures our standards are always improving.

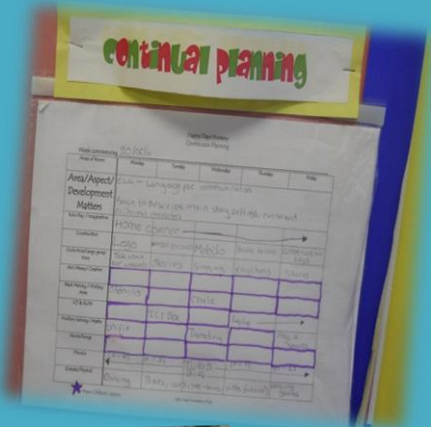
This newsletter will form part of a parent information pack. In this pack you will receive:

**An Early Years Foundation Stage leaflet** – we have devised this brief leaflet to explain a little more about the curriculum we use, we have received a lot of feedback stating that you would like to know more about it. We hope this provides you with a summary of what is involved, however if any parent should seek a more in depth overview of the curriculum we are happy to arrange a time to discuss this with you.

**A Special Memories Page & At the weekend page** – These sheets are available at all times in all nursery rooms. These pages were designed to encourage you the parent to make a contribution to your child's memory book at any time. Unfortunately we cannot send the books home on a regular basis, therefore these sheets are a way for you to share special news, exciting times and events with us. This information is always welcomed and helps us to understand a little bit more about family life. It also gives us something to engage with your child about, some very shy children respond well when they understand there is a connection between home and nursery.

### HOW CAN I FIND OUT WHAT MY CHILD IS DOING EACH DAY/WEEK? WHAT ARE THE LEARNING OUTCOMES?

WE HAVE A 50/50 RATIO OF PLANNED AND FREE FLOW ACTIVITIES EACH WEEK. THIS ALLOWS FOR THE CHILDREN TO HAVE CHOICE AND DEVELOP THEIR OWN INTERESTS WHILST ALSO ENSURING THAT STRUCTURED LEARNING TAKES PLACE. WE HAVE A LEARNING OUTCOME FOR EACH ROOM EACH WEEK AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES ARE CONCENTRATED ON THIS. WE HAVE PLANNING DISPLAYED AT ALL TIMES FOR THE PARENTS TO VIEW AND HAVE NOW PUT A SIMPLE BREAKDOWN OF OUR FOCUSED ACTIVITIES ON THE DOOR OF EACH ROOM.



### Is there any other planning we can access?

We plan on a long term basis e.g. for the whole academic year. This is issued to you every September. Last year we asked for parental input into this but the response was quite limited. The idea of the long term plan is to give an overview of the main events, festivals and topics taking place. We will be asking for your ideas again in August, so if there is anything you would like us to cover throughout the year please let us know.

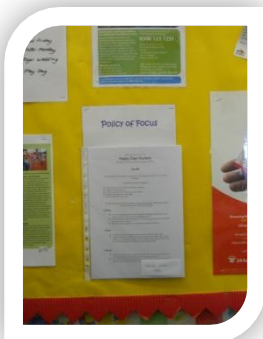
We have now decided we are going to give you a termly breakdown of activities, this will be called the medium term plan. This will highlight per term our events, topics and learning intentions. We hope this will assist you and give you an update, especially if the long term planning has been misplaced. All copies of planning are available at all times in the nursery rooms.

### WHAT ABOUT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES?

We have a comprehensive set of policies and procedures that can be accessed in each room, there is also a set available in the porch. All policies are linked to relevant legislation. Should you require an individual copy of any policy please ask and we will arrange this for you.

Every month to six weeks we also have a policy of focus, this can be found on the information board in the hallway in between the pre-school and school rooms.

What activities can we become involved in?  
Each room has a home/nursery link activity in use each term; this varies according to the age group. This is something we invite you to take home and record what you have done e.g. Flip the bear, PE equipment or a story book. Because activities have to be rotated around all children they therefore do not get sent home every week, but once per term you should experience taking an activity home.  
Every term we also offer a stay and play session. This is an opportunity for you to be in the setting interacting with your child observing how they respond to the nursery environment and their key workers. We understand not everyone can attend these sessions, but it is one service we can offer to suit some families.



**OFSTED**  
We are governed by ofsted, they monitor the standard of care and education being delivered within the setting. We recently (9<sup>th</sup> June) had an unannounced visit and are of course happy to report that we continue to meet all requirements to a high standard.

Diary Dates: Annual Fun Week 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> July..  
Summer Open Evening 8<sup>th</sup> July 6.30 – 8.00pm