

# NOMANSLAND PRE SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER September 2009

### Welcome

We have some new faces at Pre-School this term - a warm welcome to you all!

### Staff

We also have new staff faces this term. Jen Funnell and Becky Hayward have joined us as Pre School Assistants. They have been busy settling in and getting to know the children. Unfortunately Kerri has decided to step down as Playleader, we would like to thank her for all her hard work and enthusiasm this term. This means that we will be recruiting a full time Play Leader. If any of you have a friend or relative that would be interested please pass the Pre Schools contact details to them. Closing Date is 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

### Arty Children!

A big well done to everyone who entered the Nomansland Art Competition last term. We had three winners at pre school, so congratulations!

### Building Works

Please be aware that the building work at the front of the chapel on their new porch continues so ***please be very careful when arriving and leaving pre school.***

### Time to say 'Thank you'

Many thanks to everyone who came and helped with packing up at the end of last term and unloading at the start of this term. Your help is invaluable, as always.

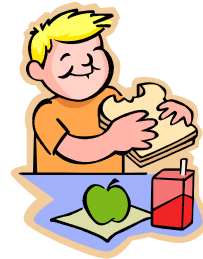
We also would like to say Thank you to Jonas Bower for securing a generous donation from his employer, Exxon Mobil. This has been used for our fabulous new unit in the pre school room.

### Learning Journeys Evening

We would like to invite all parents to pre school on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October, between 7.30pm and 9pm. You will be able to look through your children's learning journeys and talk to the staff. Kathy Wells from SENCO and Sarah Hawkings, our Early Years Advisor, will be there also to answer any questions you may have about your child's education journey. There will be refreshments and committee members will be there, so please ask them how you can be involved with pre school.

### Lunch Boxes

It is so lovely to see the children bringing in healthy lunches to Pre School. Please keep up those nutritious eating habits for your children. Please also remember to bring in a piece of fruit for the children to share at snack time.



### Family Workshops

Another event to keep an eye out for will be our first Family Workshop. Miss Moorland, from The New Forest Primary School, will be joining us for an exciting Family Bollywood Dancing Session. This will be a great opportunity to learn a new skill and enjoy shared learning with your children. Watch out on the white board for more details.

### Children's Belongings

Please could we remind you that all of your children's belongings should be clearly labelled. Also could all children who have been recently toilet trained bring a change of clothes in a labelled bag.

### The Owl & The Pussy Cat Show

The end of term show was another success. All the children enjoyed their roles & did really well remembering all their words! Parents were treated to tea, coffee and biscuits after, and all the hard work done by the staff was greatly appreciated. Well Done everyone!

### **Parent Help Rota**

We would also like to welcome Lorna Lee to the Committee who has agreed to take on the role of Rota Coordinator from Lucy Thompson. A big thank you to Lucy for all the work she has done whilst on the committee.

Please be sure to check your email before the start of each term so as not to miss your allocated slot(s). **Please note that it is your responsibility to arrange a swap if the allocated session is not convenient**, and also to amend the copy on the pre-school notice board accordingly. The commitment and support you give to the pre-school by participating on the rota is **invaluable**, and means that the staff can concentrate on working with the children.

### **Information Exchange**

Can we remind you about our 'Information Exchange' forms located by the front door. Please use these forms to let us know of anything happening at home that you feel may affect your child's time at Pre School. This could be short term changes in their home life such as building work or a house guest. It is also for you to tell us of exciting things your child is doing: something new that they have never done before like starting to swim, counting some objects, drawing a person, playing a game etc, or a trip out or just something lovely that they have shared at home.

These small changes at home can have an affect on your child's behaviour; can lead to some fascinating conversations, or the development of new skills, so please keep us informed so we can enhance your child's learning journey.

### **Fundraising**

Many thanks to all who helped either on the day or donating toys for both the Landford Show and the Nomansland Summer Fayre. Both days were a great success and enjoyed by all! They also made a significant contribution to fund raising for the pre school.

We also have plenty of fund raising events planned for this term;

**24<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Lunch.** Come & join the community for a soup & ploughman's. This will be held in Landford village hall, task sign up sheets will be up at pre school soon. We will need help on the day & with preparation beforehand.

**24<sup>th</sup> November – Pampered Chef Evening.** Come and join in the fun with other parents from pre school & order some gorgeous Christmas gifts.

**7<sup>th</sup> December – Yankee Candle Evening.** Again a lovely evening of mulled wine, mince pies & last minute gifts.

We will also be joining the schools' **Christmas Bazaar**, dates TBC.

### **AGM**

**This year our AGM will be on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 8pm. At Pre School.**

If you would like to be more involved in the management of Pre School then fear not!! At the AGM, we will be sadly losing our Chair and several general committee members as their children move up to primary school. Therefore, this is YOUR chance to get in on the action!

The Pre School committee is a vital part of the Pre School community. Your help will ensure the Pre Schools future. Being a committee member is a great way of being more involved in the day to day running and management of the Pre School. It is a good opportunity to meet new parents and share an idea or two over a glass of wine at committee meetings. We also manage a social night out once in a while too. If you have ever thought about becoming more actively involved in the Pre School, please speak to a member of staff or existing committee member.

### **Committee Meetings**

If you would like to find out more about our Pre School then why not come along to a Pre School committee meeting? Below is a list of upcoming meetings. They will be held on a Tuesday evening and always begin at 8pm, venues to be confirmed nearer the time. Keep an eye out on the pre school door for meeting reminders. Please feel free to join us - your thoughts and comments are always most welcome.



### **Forthcoming Committee Meetings:**

Term 2	Tuesday 10 November 2009
Term 3	Tuesday 12 January 2010
Term 4	Tuesday 2 March 2010
Term 5	Tuesday 27 April 2010
Term 6	Tuesday 15 June 2010

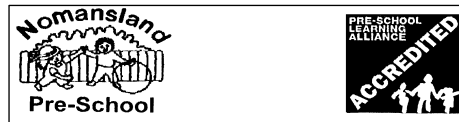
### Website

Please don't forget to check out our lovely website. Here you can find lots of information, including the latest termly topic sheet, information on the running of Pre School and links to other useful sites. Go to [www.nomanslandpreschool.co.uk](http://www.nomanslandpreschool.co.uk)

### Pre School Committee

Chairperson	Emma Herbert
Treasurers	Emma Ginns Carole Galloway
Secretary	Nicola Cooper
Admissions Coordinator	Emma Coleman
Health and Safety Coordinator	Julie Gray
Rota Coordinator	Lucy Thompson
General Committee Members	Helen Vincent Emily Davidson

*Thank you to everyone for your continued support to our Pre School*



Reg Charity No: 1026436

[www.nomanslandpreschool.co.uk](http://www.nomanslandpreschool.co.uk)

### Questionnaire Feedback

You may remember completing a questionnaire at the end of last term about your views on the pre school setting.

With many thanks to you all for completing the questionnaire and many thanks to Sue Wheeler Osman for collating the information.

These were your answers!

### Summary of July 2009 Parents' Questionnaire

Question	Yes	No	Unsure
1. Does the setting provide you with the opportunity to: Talk to your key worker daily?	95%	0	5%
Contribute to your child's records and individual learning plans?	95%	0	5%
Discuss your child's daily routine and progress regularly?	90%	0	10%
Stay in the setting if you wish?	95%	0	5%
2. Do you feel welcome and at ease in the setting?	100%	0	0
3. Does the setting regularly give you information about its activities, e.g. outings, fundraising events, and invite you to take			

part, e.g. by, letter, telephone call, or using the notice board?	100%	0	0
4. Do you feel you are informed and consulted about your child's progress?	60%	20%	20%
5. Do you feel you know what your child is learning in the setting?	80%	5%	15%
6. Are you encouraged to offer your skills to help with the running of the setting?	95%	0	5%
7. Are you encouraged to be involved in the setting's management in any way, e.g. by serving on the management or advisory committee?	100%	0	0
8. If you had a complaint, would you know who to approach?	100%	0	0

On reviewing the first half of the questionnaire it shows that Parents are very pleased with the way that the Pre-School is run and in most cases they are happy with knowing who to speak to about their child.

The only question which did score slightly low is number 4 on which nearly half of the parents who completed the questionnaire felt they had not been or were unsure about being consulted on their child's progress.

For the second half of the questionnaire parents are very happy with the staffing and their children all seem very happy to go to pre-school. Parents like the small number of children in the sessions and the variety of activities as well as the good quantity of free play. Parents are pleased that they can now make appointments to discuss their child's progress.

Improvements that are wanted are more computer access for the children and for more use of the forest to be made with nature walks - which helps compensate for small outside space. It was also suggested that the learning journals come home more often for parents to see.

Larger premises and all-weather garden facility, separate office, staff toilets, better kitchen, and separate appointment room were also suggested along with full day care and more sessions.

***Many Thanks again for taking the time to complete these and we will, of course, take your view points into account when planning for the pre school.***