

Open Evening - Everyone welcome!

We are holding an Open Evening on Wednesday 10th March 6.30-8.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along (parents, carers, grannies, grandpas), have a look around and see what your children get up to whilst in our care. There will be opportunities to chat to staff and committee members and find out more about the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Your children's Learning Journeys are a special record of their learning and achievements at Pre-School and our Open Evening is a good opportunity for you to look through your child's Learning Journey with their key person.

Appointments with your child's key person are best booked before the evening—just speak to Kim, Lucinda or your key person to book a ten minute slot between 6.30 and 8.30.

If you are unable to attend our Open Evening and would like to meet up with your child's key person, please have a word with them and they will be able to arrange an alternative time to suit you both.

Dens, Owls and Spaceships...



Our story room has been a dark room this term as we have been exploring the themes of night and day. The children have especially enjoyed playing with torches in the dark, making dens and looking for nocturnal animals hidden in the room. Their interest in night time animals followed through into craft activities where lots of bats, owls and rats were made - you may have some of these hanging about at home!

Owl biscuits and Moon cakes were made (and quickly eaten), and during the snowy days in January, lots of hot chocolate was enjoyed; especially by those children playing outside making snowmen and throwing snowballs.

We followed the children's enthusiasm for space play and the dark room became a space ship which flew to the Moon. Several spacemen were seen on 'moon walks' in the main room looking for aliens, and there were lots to find, as children used Kid K'nex and Popoid construction toys to make their own aliens. Space also featured musically as we enjoyed lunch accompanied by The Planets Suite by Gustav Holst.

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News Flash

We have just heard that we have been successful in our funding bid for new outdoor play equipment! A BIG thank you to our management committee, and especially Luci Ryan, for all their hard work in helping us to secure this money. Our plans were developed in conjunction with the children and we are very excited that we can now make them a reality. Please look out for the plans on display in the hall.

Leaving on Time

Whilst we understand that occasionally something happens that means you are late picking up your child, we are finding that more and more parents/carers are now routinely late collecting their child.

It is having an impact upon our staffing levels and routines and so we would ask that you collect your child promptly at the end of their session. Thank you.

Our Management Committee

Did you know that Bottesford Pre-School is a registered charity? As a charity the Pre-School is run by a voluntary management committee made up of parents and staff. You can find details of the current Committee (including our photos) on the notice board in the hall. Having a Committee is a legal requirement and without it the Pre-School would close.

The Committee meets once a month during term time and is responsible for many aspects of running Pre-School from managing the accounts, to fundraising, to staff issues and paying bills. We are currently negotiating a new lease, getting quotes for a new toilet area and coming up with fundraising ideas.

A new Committee is elected in May each year and everyone is welcome to join (including Dads!). If you would like to know more about what we do, or you have fundraising ideas or skills you would like to volunteer, please speak to anyone on the Committee or you can email us at the address below. We would love your input!

Luci Ryan, Chair of Bottesford Pre-School Committee

Email: committee@bottesfordpreschool.org.uk

Policies and Procedures: Illness

We have a comprehensive set of policies and procedures that ensure the children cared for at Pre-School are kept safe and healthy and reference copies are kept in the hall for you to read. The aim of our **Illness policy** is to prevent infections spreading through Pre-School and ensure that children who fall ill whilst at Pre-School are cared for appropriately. The main points of our policy are:

- To reduce the risk of infections spreading, if a child is unwell they should not be at Pre-School.
- If a child falls ill whilst at Pre-School they will be cared for away from other children and their parents/carers will be contacted and asked to collect them.
- Children with diarrhoea and/or vomiting can return to Pre-School when they have been symptom free for 48 hours.
- Children who have had a high temperature or who are on prescribed antibiotics can return to Pre-School after 24 hours.

If you are unsure how long you should keep your child away from Pre-School please speak to one of our staff or check the Illness policy which sets out the recommended exclusion periods for most common childhood illnesses.

We regularly review our policies and procedures and value parents/carers' contributions. We shall be looking at our **Liaison with Parents policy** next and welcome your comments.

Dates for your diary



Open Evening

Wednesday 10th March 6.30-8.30

End of Spring Term

Friday 26th March

Start of Summer Term

Monday 12th April

Sundown Outing

(for children going to school in Sept)

Monday 12th July 11-5

Open Morning

(for new and existing parents/carers)

Tuesday 13th July 10-12

Helping Haiti

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising for Haiti. We raised £126.10 which we have sent to the Disaster Emergency Fund. During our fundraising week, we talked about earthquakes and how the Haitians needed money to help build new houses. Some children looked on a globe to find out where Haiti was.

Lunchboxes

If your child has lunch with us, please could you ensure that their lunchbox and drinks bottle are labelled with their name. Lots of children have the same lunch box and it would help the children to find their own lunchboxes more easily if they were named. Thank you.

We hope you have found our newsletter informative. Please let us know if you have any questions. With thanks, Kim Doleman, Lucinda Tongue and the team at Bottesford Pre-School.