

June 17 Newsletter

Toy Box Day Nursery & Pre-School

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to our June newsletter bringing you up to date with all the latest news and events here at Toy Box.

It seems impossible to believe that we are half way through the year already, with plans firmly in place for our two big events of the summer, Sports Day and Graduation. Hopefully from here on in the weather should start to get a little warmer, enabling the children to spend more time out of doors, partaking in various outdoor activities which have to be curtailed during the cold wet winter months.

Pre-School and Baby Room Activities

Coupled with lots of outdoor activities, both the babies and the pre-school children have been busy with games and activities from our continuous provision, which is accessible to all the children throughout the day.

Amongst other activities the babies have been painting with shapes, fishing in the water tray with small nets, playing outside in the sand pit and mud kitchen.

The pre-school children have spent time junk modelling spaceships, exploring and "cooking" in the mud kitchen and practising using scissors safely.

Our Rhyme of the Month for the Babies is: "1,2,3,4,5"

Our Rhyme of the Month for the Pre-School is: "Little Fish"

Our Book of the Month for the Pre-School is: "Sharing a Shell"

Aliens and Space Dress-Up Day

A huge thank you to all our parents/ carers for the time, effort, imagination and creativity that everybody put into creating costumes for our Aliens and Space Dress-Up Day. The event brought a lovely end to our Book of the Month "Aliens Love Underpants" with all the lovely costumes adding to the occasion. Both staff and children had great fun throughout the day, partaking in lots of silly games and activities.

Your efforts and involvement are very much appreciated by all the staff.

Sports Day – Monday 12th June

We are inviting parents/ carers of our Owls to our Sports Day on Monday 12th June between 2.00pm and 3.00pm.

As in previous years, the event will take place in the school grounds directly opposite the nursery kitchen window.

This year, as we only have eighteen children leaving for school we would also like to invite our eldest group of Tiggers to take part in the official Sports Day.

The children are very excited about the event and are currently practicing diligently every day. As to how they will react when parents/ carers are present on the day remains to be seen.

On Sports Day the children will be split into teams and will be competing against one another in the following race categories:

Egg and Spoon Race	Children - Nursery will provide the “eggs”
Relay Race	Children
Sack Race	Children - Each child must bring a pillow case
Backwards Race	Children
Three-legged Race	Staff

There will also be a Mummies race and a Daddies race.

If you would like your child to take part in our sports day please fill in and return the accompanying reply slip ASAP. Once we know the final number of children participating staff will set about deciding on teams and team colours.

In order to give staff plenty of time to arrange team colours they will need to know by June 5th whether your child will be taking part.

There is no need to bring a drink for your child/ children on the day as water and biscuits will be provided.

Graduation Party - Saturday 1st July 10.30am OWLS ONLY

On Saturday 1st July we are hosting our annual Graduation Party for all the Owls who are leaving Toy Box to start school in September.

So far this year we only have eighteen children leaving to start school, the lowest number ever, so there will be no problem with bringing siblings. As well as helping the children celebrate the end of their time at Toy Box the event also gives parents/ carers a chance to get together here at nursery before everyone goes their separate ways.

The party will start at 10.30am and will probably last one and a half to two hours or so, depending on how the children are enjoying themselves. The event will be completely informal and the children will be free to play with one another under the supervision of staff whilst parents/ carers have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee and a piece of cake.

I realise that Saturday is always a busy day for everybody so if you feel that you are unable to spend a whole hour just drop in for ten minutes or so.

If your child is leaving us to go to school this summer and you would like to attend, please fill in the reply slip attached to the newsletter and return it to nursery as soon as possible.

Please remember the Graduation Party is ONLY for those children who are leaving to go to school.

Parents/ Carers Day

We are holding a parents/ carers day on Monday 19th June between 9.30am and 5.15pm. A fifteen minute slot will be allocated to each parent/ carer where you can look through your child/ children's Learning Journey and discuss with your child's Key Person any queries or concerns you may have about your child/ children's development.

Please see Helen to make an appointment. If you cannot attend on that day we will be delighted to make an alternative mutually convenient appointment for you.

Future Plans and Questionnaires

Have you returned your Future Plans and Questionnaire forms? If not we would really appreciate it if you could return both forms ASAP. Thank you to all those parents/ carers who have already returned both forms, but unfortunately at this point there are still several forms outstanding. So far, from nearly one hundred Future Plans and Questionnaires sent out, only five have been returned.

If you have misplaced one or both forms please do not be shy about asking Helen or any member of staff for a replacement. We keep several spares in the office to cover that eventuality.

We really do need to have the forms returned by the end of this month so we can collate all the information and get it ready in time to publish the results in our July newsletter.

Staff Member of the Month

Congratulations to Jess Ellis who has been nominated Staff Member of the Month for May. Jess will now receive a £20.00 gift voucher of her choice.

So well done to Jess and a very big "Thank you" to all parents/ carers who took the time to vote. Your effort is much appreciated by everyone.

Staff News

Tamara Smith, our Pre-School Room Leader, is now Mrs Tamara Dennison.

Tamara married her long term partner, Danny Dennison, on May 20th. Needless to say Tamara looked stunning on the day which was a beautiful happy occasion, despite the weather.

So hearty congratulations to Tamara, her husband Danny and their little son Theo. We wish them all the very best for the future.

Birthdays

We would like to wish the following children a big “Happy Birthday” for the month of June.

Otis B - 1 year old

William S - 2 years old

Benjamin M - 3 years old

Maiya S - 3 years old

Samuel M - 3 years old

Henry B - 4 years old

Dates for Your Diary

Sports Day	- Monday 12 th June 2.00 – 3.00pm
Parent/Carers Day	- Monday 19 th June (Don't forget to book your time slot)
Graduation Day (OWLS ONLY)	- Saturday 1 st July 10.30am

And Finally...

As always thank you to all parents/ carers who participate in and respond to requests that we make. Your involvement is very much appreciated and all your suggestions and queries are always very welcome and taken seriously.

Noreen, Helen and all the staff at Toy Box Day Nursery