



Noah's Ark Christian Pre-School (Buckhurst Hill)
Registered Charity No: 1177779 (C. I. O.)
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Newsletter

25th April 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back. We hope you had a wonderful Easter break.

Waitrose Green Tokens

This month we are one of the charities chosen by Waitrose as part of their Community Support Scheme (green tokens). Please remember whenever you pop into Waitrose over the course of April to drop some green tokens in our pot. The more tokens, the more money Waitrose will donate to us. All monies raised will go towards our ongoing garden project.

Running Rocky!

Rocky, one of our busy bee children has been training hard to prepare for his 2.5k park run to raise money for the Pre-School garden. Rocky is hoping to be ready to take on this massive challenge at the end of April. If you would like to sponsor Rocky, please put your donations in an envelope marked Rocky sponsorship and give to Fran or Jo Hazell. All monies raised will go towards equipment for the garden.



Sun cream

We do not keep sun cream at the Pre-School, so please remember to apply it to your child before the session. We use the garden everyday and if the weather forecast is to be believed, then we are in for some sunny days. Please also provide your child with a sun hat.

School Readiness

In order to prepare our older children (the Busy Bees) for school life, we will be starting our school readiness programme after Easter. These will take place during the normal session hours. We will be having P.E. sessions and Lunch days. The main aim of these activities is to help the children to be confident and able to carry out essential tasks that they will be required to do at primary school.

The first session on Wednesday 1st May will be a P.E. session. Please provide a t-shirt, shorts and plimsolls for your child to change into. The children will be doing some physical activity however the main aim of the P.E. sessions is to ensure the children can get changed on their own for school P.E.

School Uniform & Book Bags

Do you have any old school uniforms and book bags that you no longer need? We would like to have them for our school role play area. It does not matter which school the items are from.



Parent Garden Club

We would like to have a parent garden club. This would involve a group of parents who are willing to take control of keeping the site tidy. It would mainly require weeding, sweeping and the occasional trip to the dump. In particular the fire escape alley gets very overgrown quickly and we cannot keep on top of it – can you help? We do not have much in the way of gardening equipment – a pair of shears, a pair of small loppers and a broom is all we have!

Staff Changes

Claire Driver will be leaving us at the end of this week. We wish Claire well.

Kaye Emery has joined us as a one-to-one practitioner.

Key Person

When Claire leaves, her key children will be assigned a new key person from the remaining Busy Bee staff. Any questions, please speak to the deputy manager, Jo Harvey.

Extended Sessions

We will be running the extended sessions for Busy Bees from next Thursday 2nd May. We only have 10 children registered for this at the moment – so there are spaces available. These are school readiness sessions and will focus on preparing the children for primary school.

FUNDING

Funding forms area now available – please complete these on site. If we do not have a signed funding form for your child, we are unable to claim the fees from Essex County Council and you will be liable for the fees. All forms must be completed by no later than Wednesday 8th May 2019.

EYPP

What is the Early Years Pupil Premium?

If you receive free 3 or 4 year old childcare at a school nursery, day nursery, pre-school or with a childminder, they may be able to claim up to £300 each year to spend on enriching your child's learning.

This funding is called the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and is paid directly to childcare settings for each eligible child.

The amount of funding available will depend on how many hours your child attends a childcare setting and the payment will not affect any benefits you may currently be claiming.

How will the funding help my child?

Children develop quickly during their early years and a child's experiences between birth and the age of five can have a major impact on their later life.

Early learning experiences can be enhanced by the EYPP and the funding can be spent on lots of different things including extra resources, exciting experiences, preparing for school and additional enhanced support if you agree that this would benefit your child's learning.

Your chosen childcare setting will work with you to decide how the funding could make the biggest difference to your child by discussing their interests.

Is my child eligible?

If you receive one of the following benefits, your chosen childcare setting may be entitled to claim this funding:

Income support

Income-based Jobseekers Allowance

Income related employment support allowance

Child tax credit (providing you are not also entitled to WTC and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

Working Tax Credit run-on, paid 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for WTC

Support under part VI of the immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The guaranteed element of the state pension credit

Universal Credit

Or if your child:

Has been looked after by the local authority in care for at least one day

Has been adopted from care

Has left care through a special guardianship

What do I do next?

If you think your child may be eligible for the EYPP please speak to your childcare setting. They will ask you to fill out an EYPP Voluntary Registration form which includes the details they need to claim this funding.

The payment to the setting will not affect any benefits you are claiming.

Spaces for September 2019

We have some spaces available in the Caterpillar group (younger children) from September. Please let your friends and family know and encourage them to pop in for a visit.

God bless.

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