



## Duxford Preschool Newsletter February 2018

Welcome to the Duxford Preschool newsletter! We send out a newsletter every half term to let parents know what we are getting up to and to let you know about any events or important information you may need. This half term we will be doing lots of fun things around our topic of "mini beasts" including sensory experiences such as super worm playdough, looking for bugs in porridge and jelly and finding worms in the garden. We have turned the playhouse into a bug hunting den where I'm sure the children will enjoy lots of roleplay games.

We will also be celebrating Holi and world book day. If you or your family celebrate these or any other upcoming festival we would love to have you come and share your celebrations with the children.

### Fundraising

Remember that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be raising a free donation for Duxford Preschool. There are nearly 3000 retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Next, Debenhams and Currys who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend each time you shop with them. All you need to do is sign up at [www.easyfundraising.co.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.co.uk) and enter Duxford Preschool as your nominated charity. We are also still collecting empty ink and toner cartridges through [www.emptiesplease.co.uk](http://www.emptiesplease.co.uk), which are then recycled and turned in to cash for the preschool. Please ask if you would like an envelope to take home to put your empties in or alternatively you can pop them in the box in the Sunshine Room.

Thank you for all of your silver Smartie tube donations and we hope the children have been enjoying their Smarties!

### Healthy Lunchboxes

At Duxford Preschool we promote healthy lifestyles and this includes healthy lunchboxes. We do not encourage children to bring cordial/squash in their lunchboxes and do not provide it ourselves, so we would really appreciate it if you could not put sugary drinks in their lunches such as squash. If your child needs a drink at lunchtime, we offer milk or water at no cost to you. A small treat is ok, but generally we would encourage children to eat the other elements of their lunch first, before any treats, such as chocolate, cake or crisps. If you would like any advice on healthy lunchboxes please ask a member of staff or visit the NHS Change4Life website, which has some good ideas:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Change4Life/Pages/healthy-lunchbox-picnic.aspx>

**We are also a nut free setting, so please do not send any nuts or nut products with your child.**

### ECaT top tip for the half term

Nic and Danielle are the early language lead practitioners in the setting. This half term the top tips is:

**Plan a variety of interesting activities so that there is plenty to talk about.**

Speech, language and communication development occurs at all times throughout the day and a rich curriculum providing a variety of experiences will ensure that children have the opportunity to hear and use all kinds of different vocabulary and language structures.

### Childcare Vouchers

Did you know that we accept payment via childcare vouchers? We are currently registered with the following companies and our account numbers are as follows:

**Edenred:** P20628680

**Sodexo:** 832601

**Co-operative:** 85110125

**Computershare:** 51380133

**Care 4:** 15801135

**Allsave:** no reference required

**Kiddivouchers:** use our Osted ref: 500863

Please make sure that you add your child's name as a reference otherwise we cannot tell who it is from.

If you would like to use another company for childcare vouchers please let Karen know (see email address below), so we can set up an account with them.

### Social Media

#### Facebook

Don't forget to 'like' the Duxford Preschool Facebook page. Please feel free to comment on and like posts too, as this boosts our online presence and helps our Facebook reach, so that when we are fundraising, for example, our events get seen by more people online.

There is a Duxford Preschool profile but please do not send a friend request to it as this was set up purely for the purposes of starting the business page.

### Events

The new half term has gotten off to an exciting start with Chinese New Year celebrations. The children enjoyed role playing in a Chinese restaurant, Chinese painting and cooking a Chinese coconut cake in cookery club.

We are looking forward to celebrating world book day with a pyjama and onesie day this week and making the staff very colourful during our Holi celebrations on Friday.

Nic is now in post as Deputy Manager alongside Carrie. Nic is in the setting on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday, with Carrie continuing to work Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### Email contacts

[manager@duxfordpreschool.org.uk](mailto:manager@duxfordpreschool.org.uk) This is accessed by Pippa and should be used for issues around staffing, vacancies or anything to do with the day to day running of the setting.

[deputy@duxfordpreschool.org.uk](mailto:deputy@duxfordpreschool.org.uk) This is accessed by Carrie and Nic and should be used in the manager's absence, such as on a Monday or if you want to contact Carrie as your child's keyworker.

[keyworker@duxfordpreschool.org.uk](mailto:keyworker@duxfordpreschool.org.uk) This address is accessed by Danielle, Sofie, Gail, Amy & Jamie so if you have any concerns about your child's development or behaviour or would like to share anything about them with their keyworker, please use this address.

[committee@duxfordpreschool.org.uk](mailto:committee@duxfordpreschool.org.uk) This address is accessed by Steve, the committee chairperson and is best used for anything to

do with volunteering, staff issues, committee members or membership.

[admin@duxfordpreschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@duxfordpreschool.org.uk) Accessed by **Karen**, the setting Administrator, used for any invoicing or fee issues and any other queries.

We hope you all have a great half term with us and if you have any questions you know where to find us!