



Duxford Preschool Newsletter January 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 **"fairy tales" including sensory experiences like fairy play-doh, making stain glass castle windows, growing our own beanstalk and lots of porridge tray activities!**

We will also be celebrating Valentines and Shrove Tuesday if you or your family celebrate any of these festivals, we would love for you to come and talk to the children about it and share some activities.

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 and enter Duxford Preschool as your nominated charity. We are also still collecting empty ink and toner cartridges through 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.

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.

Danielle's ECaT top tip for the half term

As many of you will know Danielle is our Every Child a Talker (ECaT) lead. These are her top talking tips for this half term:

Rather than criticise, demonstrate the right way - if a child makes an error in a word or sentence, simply say the correct version rather than pointing out the mistake. For example, if the child says, 'I goed to the park', you might say 'wow, so you went to the park'.

Be careful with questions - try not to ask too many questions, especially ones that sound like you're constantly testing the child.

The best questions are those that challenge the child to think rather than give an instant answer.

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 children and staff had an amazing experience at the Panto in December and they behaved impeccably, 'oh no they didn't 'oh yes they did!' We had such a good time and look forward to doing it again this year.

We are also pleased to announce that Pippa is the settings new manager after Joe departed back in November to move on to pastures new. Pippa is doing a great job I'm sure you will all agree! Emma our preschool administrator is sadly leaving us this week, after being our saving grace in the office for nearly two years. We have recently employed Karen who will be taking over the role, and I'm sure you will all give her a warm welcome when you see her. Her office hours will be Monday and Tuesday 9am-3pm.

Email contacts

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 This is accessed by **Carrie** 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 This address is accessed by **Danielle, Sofie, Nic, 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 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 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!