



Welcome Back

Happy New Year! We hope that that you all had a lovely Christmas and had as much fun as the children did at our end of term party



We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new children who are joining us this term as well as our new member of the team - Natalie Bailey. Natalie comes to us with a range of experience from volunteering through to working in nurseries and a primary school.

Buy a Ball

We would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who has been involved in our 'Buy a Ball' Draw this has raised £250 so far towards resources for the Pre-School (we need some new notice boards and I would love to be able to buy a new pack away climbing frame for outside - those are some of our goals). This month's prize kindly organised by Katherine Dickinson (Joshua's Mum) is two free passes for Whizz Kidz for January so we intend to make the draw this week to give the winner chance to use them.



If you have not got involved yet and would like to do so by buying a 'ball' please ask a member of staff - thank you!

Term Dates

We break up on Friday 15th February for our half term break, returning on Monday 25th February 2018.

Committee

We are intending to hold a meeting in February - date yet TBC when we do it will be advertised on our Notice Board (outside the front doors). Anyone who is interested is very welcome to attend.

Mini Beast Schools

This half term we will be continuing our Mini Beast Sessions on a Friday with the whole group of children who attend on that day. As the weather has become colder, we may bring activities inside if needed as we did at the end of last term. However please make sure that any children who attend on a Friday have warm clothes (thick coats,



boots, hats, gloves etc.) as ideally our aim is to spend the morning outside.

School Closures

In the event that we do have to close due to heavy snow, we will attempt to contact everyone who is due into Pre-School on that day as soon as we can. Pre-School Closures will also be displayed on our Website, Facebook Page and the Bucks County School Closure Website.

Usual Reminders:

Lunch Club

If your child stays for our Lunch Club, please provide a healthy packed lunch. First Steps promotes **healthy eating** and would appreciate if chocolate or sweets were not included. **We also ask that nuts be avoided because of food allergies.**

Mobile Phones

Please ensure that your phone is switched off when dropping off and collecting your child. We will not hand a child over to a parent or carer who is on their mobile phone at collection time. This is due to safeguarding regulations.

Coats and Wellies

Just our usual reminder to parents, that as we will be continuing to utilise our outside area throughout the year, please remember to bring in wellies and warm clothing for your child. Please also ensure that all removable items are **clearly named**.

Late Collection of Children

We would like to remind you once again of the importance of collecting your child on time and the disruption that it causes when they are collected late.

Our collection times are: 12pm, 1pm or 2.45pm prompt.

Pre-School Uniform

We have a selection of uniform in a range of sizes, the cost will be: Sweatshirts £10.00 and T-shirts £5.00. Please ask a member of staff if you would like to purchase any of these items.

Sickness and Absence

If your child is absent for any reason, we would be grateful if you would let us know on the first day of absence if possible - this can be just by a text message. Also please remember that if your child has been sick or has had diarrhoea, we request that you do not send them into Pre-School until a clear 48 hours have passed since the last episode of illness.