



**Jan/Feb 2012**

We hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas break and here's to a fun filled 2012. Welcome back to those of you continuing with us and a warm welcome to the nursery for those who are joining us for the first time. We hope you enjoy your time at Buckles and Bows.



**Appeal for earth!**

Do you have any earth or spare bags of earth that you'd like to donate to the nursery? If so, we'd love to hear from you. We are looking for approx. 10 bags of earth to fill the raised vegetable beds, so that our children can grow their own fruit and veg and have our very own Mr Bloom's Nursery! If you can help, we'd love to hear from you.

**Handy Man**

From time to time we need the assistance of one of the Dad's who is a bit 'handy' around the house. If you'd like to nominate your partner (!) as one of those people, we'd love to hear from you. They aren't huge jobs, they are usually things like hanging a blind or putting a handle back on a door and it would save us the expense of calling out a professional. Please e-mail Catherine at [ccassin6@gmail.com](mailto:ccassin6@gmail.com) if you'd like to nominate your partner.

**Our staff**

Kelly Gill (Manager)  
Sue Bromley  
Jill Marsh  
Edwina Welch  
Debbie Davies (Administrator)

**Topic: Fantasy**

**\*The following information is provided for New Starters:**

\* The children who attend the morning sessions (our second year children) have an assigned keyworker to work with them throughout their time at Buckles & Bows. This enables them to feel comfortable as they work in smaller groups and gain confidence as they get to know their keyworker. Their relationship grows stronger and stronger as they progress.

\* The afternoon children who have just joined, will be assigned a keyworker after the children have had time to settle in. It is usually made clear by the children

who they want their keyworker to be, as they create their own special bonds with the teachers.

\* The keyworker has also been designed so that parents can speak to the keyworker if they have any concerns or questions about their child. Please feel free to speak to your child's keyworker at any stage throughout the academic year, at the end of the session.

**\* The Committee**

All these people take time out of their busy lives to make the nursery a great environment for our children to grow up in and our thanks go out to each and every one of them. (AM = Morning, PM = Afternoon group)

- Chair** Beckie Johnson (AM)
- Vice Chair** Catherine Cassin (AM)
- Treasurer** Anita McKay (AM)
- Vice Treasurer** Victoria Mattina (PM)
- Secretary** Annette Hart (PM)
- Fundraiser** Caroline Price (AM)
- Vice Fundraiser** Liz Hogan (AM)
- General Committee Members** Stacey Loake (AM), Clare Occomore (AM), Lucy Holgate (AM) and Anita Benedict (PM).

**CALENDAR**

Mon  
**9**  
Jan  
First Day of Term

Date  
**TBC**  
Parents' Afternoon

Fri  
**10**  
Feb  
Last Day of Term

Mon - Fri  
**13-17**  
Feb  
Half Term Holiday

\* There is a good mix of morning and afternoon parents on the committee, so if you'd like to find out who is who, please ask the other parents in your group, as a lot of us know each other.

#### \* **Footwear**

Please could we ask that you supply indoor shoes for your child. These can be either slippers or plimsols and should be clearly marked with their name in (on each shoe) and put in their named shoe box in the lobby area which will be below their peg. When you drop your child off, please put their indoor shoes on and their outdoor shoes in their box. This will help control the dirt that comes in, especially during the winter months. A pair of named wellies which can be left at nursery, would also be useful for the winter months and also for when the children go digging outside. Please also provide a rain coat, as the children do play outside in the colder months under the covered area.

#### \* **Book Bags**

If you haven't already done so, we suggest that you buy a book bag for your child so that any letters, paintings, books or any other work can be put in it at the end of the session. They can be purchased from the staff at nursery. Please remember to bring it in each day and check it at the end of each day for information which may concern you.

#### \* **Refreshments**

The children have a break during their session for a drink and some fruit. The drink will be a choice of either milk or water and is provided. If your child has any special requirements or allergies (i.e. requires Soya milk) please speak to Kelly Gill).

### **A Message To All From the Staff**

The staff would like to invite parents to bring their children into the nursery (if you wish) at drop off, so that you are able to see the nursery and what the children have been doing. This will also give parents the chance to see their child's keyworker briefly. Pick up will remain the same so that we can monitor which children have been collected. If parents would prefer to speak to a keyworker at the end of the session, you are welcome to come in once you have collected your child.

The staff will be sending home the 'Next Steps' forms for each child during the first week of term. This will allow parents to see what we are working on with their child as an individual. Parents are welcome to take a copy to keep, but we do need parents to add any comments if they wish, sign and return the form to nursery.

#### **Parents Afternoon**

Please be advised that there will be a parent's afternoon within the next month or so. The date and more information will follow on the notice boards with regards to reserving your slot.

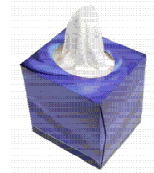
#### **Punctuality**

Please ensure that you drop off (and collect) your child at the appropriate time to ensure the class can begin on time. Please don't let others suffer because of your lateness. The morning session finishes at 12.00pm and the afternoon session begins at 12.40pm. Thank you.



#### **Fruit**

Please can you all provide one piece of fruit for each day that your child attends nursery. It's a great way to get goodness into them and it's amazing that if one of them see their friends eating it, the others will follow. Favourites are apples, bananas, grapes, strawberries, raisins, pears etc. Oranges aren't so popular 😊



#### **Tissues**

Please can you donate boxes of tissues for those winter sniffles?



#### **Stationery Supplies**

If anyone has access to free paper, envelopes or computer paper we would be very pleased to hear from you. We always need supplies to keep our costs down. Tesco do a great range of value paper too!



#### **Minutes of committee meetings**

Committee meetings are held every half term. If you would like to see a copy of the Minutes, they can be found in the lobby of the portacabin in a file named 'Minutes' if you would like to read them. All parents are welcome to attend a committee meeting to find out more about how the nursery is run and you can also have your input into future events.

### Contact Details

If your personal details have changed, i.e. moved home, changed phone/mobile number, please can you ensure that you notify Debbie Davies, our administrator at [bucklesbows@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bucklesbows@yahoo.co.uk) ASAP, as all details need to be kept up-to-date. These are very important as they allow us to contact you quickly in case of emergency.

### Noticeboards/Information

Please can you all continue to check the noticeboards on a regular basis for information about what is happening in the nursery. Please note that if a parent doesn't collect the child on a regular basis, then it is the responsibility of the person who does collect them to check the noticeboards and pass the information on.

### Absences

The Nursery Education Grant requirements mean that we have to account for any child absent from Nursery whilst the Government is paying for their place at Nursery. In order to satisfy any possible audits, we are asking parents to provide a note to the staff to explain any absences, i.e. sickness, holidays, etc. This only applies to funded children, but would be good practice for all children attending Nursery. Just a brief note to say why your child didn't attend their session would be great

### Notice To Leave

If you intend to remove your child from the nursery, please remember you have to give ½ term's notice in order for us to fill your place. If you do not, you will still have to pay your fees.

### Footwear

Thank you to everyone for taking their shoes, slippers and wellies home at the end of last term. The nursery had a deep clean over the Christmas holidays and this

certainly made it easier for our lovely cleaner to do a great job. Please could you now bring your child's footwear back to nursery and please take any old footwear that is too small, home with you, as space is limited in the shoe boxes. Thank you.

### Christmas Gifts

Just a gentle reminder for those of you who owe for their children's Christmas work to put your money in an envelope and put it in the black box in the lobby, clearly marked with your child's name and what it's for – thank you.

### Christmas Nativity

This year's Christmas nativity was held in the nursery and was performed by the older children (morning children) and was very cute and a huge success. Kelly and all the staff did a fantastic job and the parents thoroughly enjoyed it. Our thanks go to Caroline Price and Liz Hogan for all their efforts with drinks, mince pies, photos and lots more. Our thanks also go to Lee Noto for filming the nativity and allowing the parents to purchase a DVD and therefore raising funds for the nursery.

### Christmas Social

Thanks again to Caroline and Liz (Fundraisers) and the fundraising team and all the helpers who helped at the Christmas Social. Such a huge amount of time and effort goes into these events before, during and after and we wouldn't be able to raise much needed funds for the nursery. Our thanks also go to Julie Arnot (Keiran's Mum) for the delicious homemade soup she made. It was much appreciated as Keiran doesn't start nursery until this week! ☺



If you have any ideas or suggestions for our newsletter, please e-mail Catherine at [ccassin6@gmail.com](mailto:ccassin6@gmail.com)

**Thank you to everyone who supports the nursery in every way.** We really do appreciate your support and couldn't do it without you. We are all parents trying to do the best for our children