

November/December 2013

Dear Parents/Carers

We have a busy time ahead this half term with our run up to Christmas! Yes Christmas!! We will have a Pre-school Christmas Carol Coffee Morning, Christmas Lunch and a Christmas Party with school. (We will, very soon, be sending home a song sheet with our Christmas song list for you and your child to learn).

This half term, for our topic, we are looking at festivals and celebrations which will include Bonfire night, Birthdays, Hanukkah (also known as Chanukah) the Jewish Festival of Lights and of course Christmas!

We will also be looking closely at counting and number recognition.

In addition to our topic, we will also be looking at your child's interests and likes and we will use these in our weekly planning. You can see this in more detail in our little room on the cupboard door.

### School Admissions

Children whose date of birth falls between **01/09/2009** and **31/08/2010** will be due to start school in September 2014 and parents will need to apply for a place. The closing date to apply is **15 January 2014**. **If this deadline is missed then you may not be considered for place in your preferred school.** If you have not received details on how to apply please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the Pre-school team.

### Dates for your Diary

- **Monday 18 November** – Scholastic Books are in school. You will have an opportunity to view the books on offer during this week.
- **Thursday 21 November** – School Community Lunch day.
- **Tuesday 10 December** – School Christmas Dress Rehearsal. 10:30 am Cambo Village Hall
- **Monday 16 December** – Pre-school trip to The Enchanted Forest. More details to follow.
- **Tuesday 17 December** – Pre-school Christmas Carol Coffee Morning.
- **Wednesday 18 December** – Christmas Lunch.
- **Thursday 19 December** – School & Pre-school Christmas Party.
- **Friday 20 December** – Pre-school break up.

### Snack Contribution - Update



Following feedback from the email I sent at the beginning of the half term holiday – Pre-school will continue to provide your child with a healthy snack and charge 40p per child, per day. *To continue providing snack this way we really need you to pay on the day, or in advance, for your snack as we use the money you pay to buy to snack we provide!*

**We would still very much welcome any homemade cakes, scones and biscuits!**

### Tapestry – Pre-school's Online Personal Learning Journal

Please could you return your Tapestry reply slip to Pre-school as soon as possible – if you need a hard copy, please ask a member of the Pre-school Team.

### **Changes to the Committee**

Caroline Dower will be resigning from the Wraparound Committee when she leaves the area later this year. I know you'll all join me in saying a big thank you to Caroline for all her hard work and dedication to Wraparound. Parental involvement in Wraparound is really important and we welcome new members for the Committee responsible for Preschool and Afterschool. If you are interested in getting involved please do speak to either: Caroline Dower, Nanette Robson or Claire Cowie.

### **Christmas Cards**

If you haven't already paid for your child's Christmas cards you can pay by cash or cheque, please make cheques payable to Cambo First School.

### **Contacting Pre-school**

Please could we ask that you **always** contact Pre-school in the first instance with any information/changes regarding your child **07887 409641**. The school office should not be contacted unless it is an emergency and you have been unable to contact Pre-school.

### **Absent or Sick Children**

*If your child will not be attending Pre-school we would be really grateful if you could ring, email or text us to let us know – **Pre-school Mobile: 07887 409641**.*

If your child has had sickness or diarrhoea please allow 48 hours before they are brought back to Pre-school. If they have any infectious illnesses such as chicken pox could you please let us know so we can alert other parents.

If your child takes poorly during Pre-school, staff will judge whether they need to be taken home and will inform parents in the first instance. Please be aware that we cannot administer Calpol etc, only medication prescribed by a doctor and with a full medical form filled out by the parent/carer beforehand.

### **Learning from Home**

You will have received an email (or letter if you do not have email) about our Learning at Home initiative. A leaflet on how to make different types of play dough for your child was sent home for the holidays – any photographs of your homemade play dough and what exciting things you made with it would be greatly appreciated. We will begin to send home regular 'Learning at Home' items with your child this half term, if you do not wish to participate, please speak to your key person.

### **School Lunches**

Pre-school children are welcome to stay for lunch. The cost for lunch is £2.00 per day and this **MUST** be paid either in advance or on the day your child is staying. Children staying for lunch must be picked up by 12:45 pm prompt.

### **Fundraising for Wraparound - Great North Run, Nanette Robson**

Thank you to everyone who sponsored Nanette, she completed the GNR in 2 hrs 17 minutes – fantastic! Nanette has raised £420 for Wraparound – Well done and thank you very much Nanette from everyone within Wraparound. If you still owe Nanette sponsor money you can leave it with a member of Pre-school team.

### **Wraparound Halloween Party**

This was a great success and lots of fun was had by all who attended. With BIG thanks to Danni Johnson and Tracey Davison for organising the event. To Caroline Glass, Marie Jones and Christine Stewart for assisting on the day and to everyone who turned up and had great fun and to those who donated sweets and items. We raised £266.

### **Head Lice**

Please keep checking your child's head for lice and inform a member of staff if your child has head lice.

