

## December Newsletter 2020

Dear Parents

November has been another great month of fun and learning in Pre-School. We have been learning about 'Ourselves' and introduced learning and discussion about our bodies Senses, feelings & emotions, growing up and keeping healthy/keeping safe. These discussion proved helpful in supporting children as they talked about any fears or issues they had. If we can support any concerns or issues your child is having with discussions, stories etc please share with us and we will be only to happy to help.

The 'Baby Clinic' we had set up in our Imaginative Play area prompted lots of roleplay and discussion about babies and their needs.

The children were so engaged with lots of chat from them as they showed and talked about their home activity. We hope you enjoyed engaging with them as they completed these.

We hope you enjoyed watching the 'Singing & Rhyme' videos on our webpage - we have such enthusiastic performers!!

Once again Thank You to all parents who supported our Sponsored Walk - the children are really enjoying the play on the new scooters, balance bikes and space hoppers we were able to purchase with the funds raised.

Jigsaw puzzle activities have been really popular with many of the children this month and we would encourage you to build on this at home as it is fun experience for them to develop their focus & concentration, fine motor skills and problem solving skills. Perhaps a new puzzle would be an idea for Christmas Presents.

**Current Guidance is currently not permitting us to have our annual Open Night in December.** If you know of any parents with young children who will be of age to register for Pre-School enrolment in September 2021 please ask them to contact me as soon as possible.

Online applications for Pre-School open on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January.

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\*\*\* As we continue to minimise the risk of Covid-19 infection, Social Services have stated that children are not to bring toys or objects from home at this time. We understand that this may be difficult for your child but we would really appreciate your support - we have also had some sharing issues about things that are brought from home.

**Christmas Plans & Activities:** Hopefully Covid-19 cases will lower and restrictions etc will allow us to remain open to have some pre-Christmas fun and activities. Although we will not be able to host our annual Christmas Party in Dromore Leisure Centre this year we are planning to have lots of Christmas play, activities, crafts and hopefully a recorded Christmas Performance for everyone to enjoy.

**'Mr Hullaballoo Children's Theatre Company** is coming to Pre-School for a socially distanced, special, Christmas Performance on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December. All Children will come together for this event - Morning children will meet in the Pre-School and Afternoon Children will meet in Primary School Hall meeting at 9.30 and finishing at 11.30. Please wear uniform on this occasion. \*\* There will no afternoon session of Pre-School on this date.

**A Christmas Jumper/T-Shirt Day** with 'Jump, Jiggle & Jive' has been brought forward to Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December - Both morning and afternoon groups of children will come together for this morning of Christmas fun with a visit from Santa. Children are encouraged to wear a Christmas Jumper or T-Shirt for this fun event. **Starting at 9am and finishing at 11.30am and again morning children will meet in Pre-School and afternoon children will meet in Primary School Hall.**

**Christmas Charity:** Each Christmas we try to support a charity and this year we are asking each family to send in some suitable, non-perishable food items to put together a hamper which we will pass on to the food bank service at Via Wings in Dromore, which has been appealing for donations.

A trolley will be positioned at the Pre-School gates for donations each day for the next two weeks.

*Continued*

\*\*\* Please do not send your child to Pre-School if they are in any way unwell or if anyone in your household has any Covid-19 symptoms, as we continue to try and minimise the risks of infections during these winter months.

\*\*\* Our last day of term will be Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December and we will reopen again Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

Thank you all for your continued support and we wish you and your families a very happy and safe Christmas.

*Julie, Karen, Wendy, Joanne, Lorraine & Caitlin*

One of our parents has very kindly offered to video record the children engaging in their Christmas Songs & Rhymes and we will be able to add this to our Web Page for everyone to enjoy.

Please complete and return this permission slip to confirm if you do or do not want your child to be involved in this.

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I give / do not (delete as appropriate) give permission for my

Child \_\_\_\_\_ to be video recorded by a Pre-School parent engaging in Christmas Songs & Rhymes in Pre-School.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_