

Teddy Link



Charity No.1022411

September 2018

We extend a warm welcome to all new parents/carers and to our returning parents/carers! We are all ready for another busy year at Rainbow Teddies! The Teddy Link provides you with termly information about what is happening at pre-school; with a few 'dates for your diary' for the coming months.

Staffing Up-date

Lisa Manning left us at the end of the summer and is now working at Manorbrook; with the same child that she supported here at Rainbow Teddies, which is lovely news for both of them! We thank Lisa for all of her hard work over the last couple of years and wish her well in her new post at Manorbrook.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Rainbow Teddies is a charity registered organisation and as such is governed by a voluntary committee; this is made up; in the main, of parents and carers of children who attend the setting. **It is a legal requirement for the setting to have a committee; without one, the setting cannot open!** Therefore, it is so important that as many of you as possible can attend the **Welcome Evening and AGM on Tuesday 2nd October at 7.30 pm- this will be held at Rainbow Teddies.** We have a few committee members 'stepping down' so we really need other individuals to 'step up'. If you have any queries about the committee before the AGM please speak to Nanda or a current committee member: Karen Payne, Mo Newton, Natalie Bertram, Jo Moore or Penny Porter.

Funded Entitlement (FE) Forms

These have been sent home in book bags; to parents whose children are eligible. **Please return these as soon as possible**, if you have not done so already! If your child is new to the setting **I will need to see proof of your child's date of birth** (birth certificate/passport or similar). If you need any help with completing the form, I am happy to help!

Joint Trip for Both Groups

A trip to Westonbirt Arboretum has been planned for both Rising School and Teddy Tot groups, on Tuesday 23rd October- letters have been sent home this week.



2018/19 RT Information Handbooks

The updated hand book can be found on the Rainbow Teddies website. If you would like a hard copy please just ask a member of staff.

Child Information Booklet (CIB)

These are the little booklets that you complete when your child first joins Rainbow Teddies; if there are any changes to address, telephone numbers or; emergency contacts etc. please do let us know! **If you child has medical needs, please speak to your Key Person about completing a Health Care Plan.** If your child is returning to us, the CIB and (*if held*) the existing Health Care Plan will need to be reviewed and signed by you as soon as possible!

Parent/Key Person Meetings

Parents of **new** children in Rising School group will be offered a meeting towards the end of this term. Returning parents of children in RS group and most of the Teddy Tot parents will have their meetings in term two. **Please note:** if you have any concerns, your Key Person will be happy to meet up with you at a mutually convenient date/time during *any* term

Planning

The theme for T.T. and R.S. is **'Settling-in and Routines'**

One way of promoting Language development and communication is through nursery rhymes, therefore, each week we will be focusing on one particular nursery rhyme; this will be printed out and available for you to take home.



Outdoors

As the weather changes, children may need to bring in wellington boots (named) although we do have quite a good supply of 'spares' if you do not have any! Please ensure that your child has warm, outdoor clothing for every session! **Please ensure that all items of clothing/footwear are named!**



Washing

There will be a washing bag of cloths, aprons, t-towels etc. routinely left outside, by the classrooms. Please share the 'load' and take it home for a wash if you can. This is greatly appreciated as we do not have the facility to do washing at pre-school!

Parent Helper

We would welcome an extra pair of hands at any time in our Rising School group! This could be you, or another family member who is willing to give up an hour or two. It is a great way to see what and who your child engages with at pre-school and it means that staff can spend more quality time with all of the children- sheets to sign-up are placed outside of the classrooms each morning. Also, if you have a skill you would be willing to share with the children or, if you would be happy to come in and talk to them about your job, please let us know!

General Reminders

- Children's clothes should be named
- **Backpacks & lunch boxes should be named on the outside**
- Backpacks should be placed on the floor; as they are too heavy for our coat hooks!
- Please do not park within the school gates or in front of residential driveways
- Pets are not allowed on school premises!
- Bikes/trikes/scooters should not be used on school grounds and cannot be left at Rainbow Teddies!
- Please ensure that you **shut and bolt** our wooden gate as you come/go and that you **close the small metal gate; at school entrance** as you pass through.
- Please bring your child's book bag in for every session; important information is often sent home this way- these cost £6 to replace, so please look after them!
- Please send children in with easy to manage clothes; belts and buckles are a bit tricky for small children!

Rising School Lunch Time

- **As mentioned; lunch boxes should be named on the outside please**, as children often have the same or similar lunch boxes!
- Due to choking hazards please ensure that grapes are cut lengthways and that cherry tomatoes are cut in half.

- To encourage independence, please help your child by sending in their food items in 'easy to manage' wrapping, such as a piece of foil or kitchen roll. Many of the small storage pots we see are quite difficult for small hands to open! Crisps and other packets can be opened at home and then secured with a peg in the lunch box.
- **Please do not send in any foods containing nuts! This includes Nutella!**

Session Fees

Rising School - £3.99 per hour

Teddy Tots - £5.16 per hour

Snack Fees

Rising School- £15 (for autumn term: 14 weeks)

Teddy Tots- £8.50 (for autumn term: 14 weeks)

A BIG THANK YOU! To all committee fundraisers, supporters and; all those who donated last year, we raised over **£1000!!** This allowed us to purchase various toys, resources and equipment for the children -an amazing result!!



Uniform

Whilst you are under no obligation to purchase any uniform, we do have 'Rainbow Teddies Pre-school' tops available in turquoise and navy blue. Costs: polo-shirt £9.00 and sweatshirt £9.50. Please speak to Nanda or a Session Leader.

Recruitment

Sarah Webb will be leaving us at the end of this term- we thank her for her hard work and wish her well for the future!

We are now recruiting for a qualified assistant on a Wednesday and Friday morning, with the probability of more hours in the New Year.

Spaces in Rising School and Teddy Tot groups

Please 'spread the word' that we still have spaces in both groups!

**Please see 'Diary Dates'
On Last Page!**

Diary Dates

Tuesday 2nd Oct.	Welcome evening and AGM 7.30pm @ R.T.
Tuesday 23rd Oct	Both groups: Westonbirt Arboretum Trip
Friday 26th Oct	End of term one
Monday 5th Nov	Start of term two
Monday 19th Nov	RS VIP Event- details to follow
Wednesday 12th Dec	RS Christmas Performance- details to follow
Tuesday 18th Dec	RS Christmas party
Monday 17th Dec	TT Christmas party
Tuesday 18th Dec	End of term two
Monday 7th Jan	Start of term Three

With warm regards

Nanda Lee