



## November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Please take a few minutes to read our newsletter as this will help to keep you informed about what is happening at pre-school this term...

### Management Committee

Thank you very much to those who supported the Annual General Meeting (AGM). We are pleased to report that we have managed to retain and recruit the required committee 'officers' along with some other willing volunteers! Karen Payne, who is a parent and a teacher at Manorbrook, continues in her role as our chairperson, Natalie Bertram remains our secretary and Mo Newton continues in her role as treasurer.

### Staff Up-Date

Sarah Webb left Rainbow Teddies at the end of term one and we are looking to recruit a new Qualified Assistant. If you know of anyone who might be suitable for the role, full job vacancy details are on the 'South Gloucestershire Early Years Vacancy Bulletin' or they can telephone 01454 867231 or email for more information: [rainbowteddiespreschool@gmail.com](mailto:rainbowteddiespreschool@gmail.com)

### Helper Rota

We invite parents, grandparents and other family members of Rising School children to volunteer in our sessions; please sign-up on the Helper rota; on the wipe-board outside. As the Teddy Tots are still settling-in, parents can support the pre-school and get involved by helping with the Washing rota; also outside for you to 'sign-up'.

### Teddy Tot Group

As children are settling in, we continue to learn about their individual characteristics and interests- our planned activities and experiences reflect this, along with exploring colours and nursery rhymes.

### Rising School Group

This term the children will be learning about different festivals and celebrations, as well as having a visit from 'Hedgehog



[www.rainbowteddies.org.uk](http://www.rainbowteddies.org.uk)

Rescue' and a gymnastics session. Please see our outside notice board and our website for more details about 'planning' for both groups.

### Progress Reports

RS children will have these sent home this term, along with an invitation for you to meet up with their Key Person.

### Supporting Independence

Please help your child by sending them in to pre-school wearing 'easy to manage' clothes, this is especially important when they are trying to master 'toileting'- they are unable to 'wait' as an adult can, so a few extra seconds fiddling with tricky belts, buckles or buttons can really impact on their success rate!

### Lunch Times

When preparing lunches for your RS child, please ensure **all lunch boxes and bottles are labelled on the outside** and due to choking hazard please cut grapes length ways and cherry tomatoes in half. Please note that **we do not allow peanut and nut products (such as Nutella)**.

### Funded Entitlement (FE) for Spring term

All children who turn three between 1<sup>st</sup> September and December 31<sup>st</sup> will be eligible for 15 hours of 'universal' funding from January 2019. Some parents may also be able to claim 'additional' funding through the 'extended' entitlement scheme, please check by visiting: [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

***If you are already in receipt of the 'extended' entitlement, you will need to check that your eligibility code is still valid for January 2019.***

### Long 'Day Session'- RS Group

Letters confirming that we will be offering a 9am until 3 pm option, on a Tuesday (from January) have been sent home this week- these have a reply slip which we ask you to complete and return to pre-school as soon as possible please.

### **Christmas Lights Charity Fair- 20<sup>th</sup> November**

This is our first year of taking part in this event and we hope it will help to raise funds for our pre-school! Our stall will have several attractions, one of which will be 'Jolly Jars'- we will need your help with these, so please look out for letters with more information, coming home next week!

### **Share a Skill!**

Do you or a family member/friend have a particular skill that you/they would be willing to share with our children? This might be creative, practical, physical etc. Would you be willing to come in to talk to the children about your job? In particular, it would be great to have male/female role models to help children learn that either gender can work successfully in many different sectors, for example a female mechanic or engineer and a male nurse or mid-wife. Please come in and speak to us if you think you can offer help with any of the above!

### **Rising school's Christmas Performance –**

Christmas performance: **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** with a 9:45a.m start. More details to follow.

**If your child does not usually attend on a Wednesday but you would like them to be in the performance, please let Lynne know as soon as possible!**

### **Christmas Party Time!**



- **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December:**  
**Rising School Party** with Entertainer – all RS children welcome (details to follow)
- **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December:**

**Teddy Tots Party**, all Teddy Tot children welcome (details to follow)

### **School entry for 2019**

Please register your child for primary school by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019:

[www.southglos.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/admissions)

### **Toys From Home**

Please discourage your child from bringing in toys from home; unless it is a 'comfort' item. We are spending a lot of time searching for 'lost' items and have had some breakages in the past. It is also tricky when we are trying to promote the idea of 'sharing' when a toy belongs specifically to one child and they are (understandably!) quite reluctant to share it.

### **RS- Base Rooms**

Introduced at the start of term- please see your child's name on the list, on the door or window of Garden Room/Terrace Room. This introduces a more structured approach to the start of the morning session with a 'register' being called as children sit on a named mat, on the carpet. After registration time, children are free to move between the two classrooms.

### **Diary Dates**

<b>Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	Workshop – Hedgehog rescue
<b>Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	RS VIP event
<b>Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	RS Christmas Performance-details to follow
<b>Mon 10<sup>th</sup> to Fr 14<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> RS and TT groups	'Save the Children'. Christmas Jumper Week!
<b>Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	TT Christmas party
<b>Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	RS Christmas party <b>AND</b> last day of term
<b>Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Start term 3</b>

*With warm regards*

*Nanda Lee*

Pre-school manager