



## NEWSLETTER

### TERM 6 2014/15

This is the final term before the end of this academic year - time has gone so quickly!

So much has happened at The Barna-Bus since September last year, not least the progress that the children have made in their learning and development.

Every day we look at the children and have to congratulate them on how individually remarkable they are!

Twenty five children are leaving at the end of term to start Reception Class at primary school. We are sure that every one of the children are ready and able to make this important transition. However, they continue to need the support of all of us to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible.

#### Parent/Carer meetings

We encourage all parents and carers to attend a meeting with their child's Key Person.

These are being arranged during week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> July for those children going to Reception class and week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> July for younger children. Your Key Person will give you a mutually convenient time and date for your meeting.

#### Learning and Development Opportunities

You may have noticed that the outdoor area has been changed to incorporate increased opportunities for growing, sensory experiences, water play, creativity and physical play. Some members of staff and committee gave up their time in the May holiday to tidy the area and include some of the key elements. We are encouraging the

children to continue planting and growing (and hopefully harvesting) vegetables, herbs and flowers (especially for bees).

We will have an official opening of the completed outdoor area during July, especially the sensory shed (watch this space!)

Inside we have been creating more cosy areas for children to read books, chat, role play and use resources such as puppets to increase literacy skills.

There is a regular small group learning opportunity included during each session which is centred around "Letters and Sounds" Phase 1 activities to increase the children's use of phonics to support their future reading, writing and comprehension. These are enjoyed by all the children.

We will once again be exploring healthy teeth, gums and mouth and children will be given the opportunity to become involved in lots of fun activities during Happy Smile Week.

#### Tempest Photography

We will keep you informed as soon as the photograph is available for those children who are moving to Reception.

We are sure this will be a great vista photograph, just like last year, one which your children will really enjoy looking at and remembering all their friends at The Barna-Bus.

Tempest will be back in November to take individual and family photos.

#### MacMillan Coffee Morning

We have once again decided to run a Coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. More details letter but please put Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 9am in your diary. Bring a cake, buy a cake, enjoy a drink, have a chat, bring some pennies to add to the fundraising. We look forward to seeing you.

#### Achieving Positive Behaviour

Unfortunately, we have not been able to find a suitable date to invite all parents and carers to share our policy and strategies. However, if you would like to stay after your coffee and cake, there will be an opportunity to be involved in a short and informal discussion around achieving positive behaviour and transition to school.

More details to follow!

## A few reminders!

There have been a few instances of children chewing gum and sweets during the session. Please can you ensure that your child does not have chewing gum or sweets at pre-school.

### Messy Play

The children's favourite activities are those during which they get as messy as possible be it shaving foam, jelly, paint, water, soil. Your child will probably come home covered in something despite our best efforts to use aprons, roll sleeves up and limit the spread of the messy resources. So please do not be disheartened by your child's clothes it does mean that they have had lots of fun and really immersed themselves in an activity of their choosing.

### No Toys

We love to see all the interesting toys that children have at home. However we would prefer that they stay at home or with you rather than being lost, broken or fought over at pre-school.

## Lunch boxes

We are very keen to encourage the children to have a healthy diet which will sustain them throughout the day and teach them good habits for life.

Please, please do not give your child foods and drink which contain high amounts of sugar, salt or fat such as chocolate, cakes, sweets, crisps, squash, fizzy drinks, fruit substitutes. Your child is very precious and their body including their teeth needs plenty of healthy foods in order for them to grow strong and healthy and develop their brain power. Please help us to do this.

If you need any ideas talk to a member of staff or research the internet on sites such as [www.healthystart.nhs.uk](http://www.healthystart.nhs.uk)

## Foot wear and Suitable clothes

The weather is still very variable and children need to wear appropriate clothes and footwear. Open toed sandals are not suitable for young children to play in a pre-school. Please ensure your child has outdoor shoes and indoor shoes which are easy for them to put on. No laces please - your child cannot do laces yet - your child wants to be independent and not frustrated in having to struggle to get their shoes on - this wastes valuable playing time!

## Arrive on time

Over half of the children will be going to Reception class at Primary School in September so we have decided that to help them understand the routine of school life Registration/Circle Time will be prompt at 9.10. Please ensure your child is already in pre-school at 8.55am at the latest in readiness to start the day. The gate will be locked at 9.05am and there will no longer be access via the Office so you may have to wait for a practitioner to open the gate. Practitioners are needed to be with the children so please ensure you are not late! Your child will be able to engage in the full learning opportunities available during the first part of the session and being on time is great practice for September.

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June for one week	Happy Smile Week
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Macmillan Coffee Morning/ Achieving Positive Behaviour Informal Chat
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Hastings Trip for School Leavers
Monday to Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Parent/Carer meetings
Monday to Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Non-Leavers Parent/Carers meetings
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Final Day of Term Leavers Day/Toddle around the Lake (Dunorlan)
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Taster Session for New Starters

PMA 10 June 2015