NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

**WELCOME BACK**

It doesn’t seem five minutes since we broke up for Christmas, we hope you all had a wonderful time, and yet we are fast approaching the February half term holiday, where does time go?

**MOTHER & BABY SESSIONS**

In the last newsletter we told you about our decision to discontinue our Mother & Baby sessions due to lack of families.

We have since had an influx of enquiries and we are going to restart them after the half term holiday.

Initially Dilys is going to be organising them alongside the parents, but we have applied for funding to cover the costs and other staff members may become involved if numbers increase and the funding application is successful.

If you are interested in getting involved please contact either Marie or Dilys.

**STAFF NEWS**

We said goodbye to Kylie when she left us on the 1st December and has returned to her previous nursery.

Justine has become a grandma and had her long hair chopped off, and donated it to the Princess Trust.

We welcome Jessica Wilson into the Blue Room as a Support Worker in the mornings.

Lisa has extended her hours to work in the Blue Room in the afternoons.

Both Lyndsey and Lou have also extended their hours as Support Workers.

***THIS TERM’S THEME***

The overall theme this term is Spring. The children will be exploring Growing, and will be planting vegetables in the garden.

We will be introducing Easter themed activities after half term and in the lead up to the Easter holidays.

We hope you and your child are making use of our lending library in the corridor.

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We are encouraging the children to drink more milk & water. Milk and water are available at snack times and water is provided for the children throughout the day.

Can we again remind parents/carers to make sure that your child’s clothing, particularly coats and shoes, are labelled with their child’s initials. This aids identification when we have to make sure that up to 20 coats and 20 pairs of shoes have to be allocated to the right children.

**INFORMATION & ADVISORY SERVICE**

Each member of staff has their own area of expertise.

**Cheryl** – SEN appeals, EHC Plans, Health & Soc. Care & Disagreement Resolution.

**Nan** – Early Years, parental advice forms & draft EHC Plans.

**Karen** – Primary school & parental advice forms.

**Michael** – Secondary school & post 16

**Nicola** – on going cases, no new referrals as she reduces her hours until full retirement.

**PARENT WORKS**

**SHOPS**

Cheryl Wyatt & Nan Cooper from IAS will be holding several workshops at the Bolton Hub, Bold St, BL1 1LS. They cover all aspects of your child’s SEND journey. There are too many to mention individually, so for more information please check out the website wwwboltonparents.org.uk/workshops

There is also a Drop In session at COG with Cheryl & Elaine on Thursday February 27th from 9.30am to 11.30am. No appointment needed. So, if you have any questions regarding your child, SEND procedures or Social care, call in for a brew and a biscuit.

DONATIONS RECEIVED

Donations received since the last newsletter are as follows:-

Weavers Arms Collecting Tin £27.06

St Margaret’s Church £50.00\*

Anonymous £20.00

Bolton CVS (Health & Wellbeing) £5000\*\*

Bolton Hospice Partnership £209.25

BWFC Lifeline Partnership £72.96

BWFC Goldline Partnership £36.48

Paypal £35.48

\*towards the Christmas Party

\*\*towards the transport costs

As we didn’t hold a Christmas Raffle last year, we will be holding an Easter raffle this year. The 1st prize will again be £150 and the second prize will be a luxury hamper, with some Easter themed items, rather than Christmas. Please keep your eyes peeled on the notice board in the corridor for the list of items we will be requesting for the hamper. Did you get any unwanted Christmas presents that we can use as prizes?

**EASTER RAFFLE**

We would love it, if once again, you could all help in selling tickets. Each family will be issued with 50 tickets, but if you think you could sell more please let Annette know.

**UPCOMING HOLIDAYS**

Please be aware that half term is from

Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February.

Term ends on 27th March and the Easter Holiday is from Monday 30th March to Monday 13th April 2020, we return for the Summer Term on Tuesday 14th April.

The early, May Bank Holiday is on Friday 8th May.

We break up for the Summer Half Term on Friday 22nd May and return on Monday 1st June and the Summer Term ends on Friday 17th July.

Holiday lists are available in the office

**BOLTON HOSPICE LOTTERY**

 **AND**

**BWFC LIFELINE & GOLDLINE**

Did you know that COG is a partner in the Hospice Lottery and also BWFC Goldline & Lifeline Lotteries? This means that should you join either lottery, using one of our dedicated application forms, 35p of every pound you pledge to the Hospice and 70p of every pound you pledge to BWFC Lifeline/Goldline will be donated to COG.

The minimum payment is £1 per week for the Hospice, £1 per week for the Goldline and £2 per week for the Lifeline, it can be paid by Direct Debit, Cheque or Credit/Debit cards.

There are big weekly/monthly prizes.

**HOSPICE LOTTERY** – UP TO £1000 WEEKLY

**GOLDLINE** - £500 every weekday, £100s in consolation prizes and up to £5000 in the Goldline extra draw.

**LIFELINE** – Each week you have a chance of winning 1 x £2000, 4 x £100, 5 x £50 and 8 x £25 and up to £7500 in the Rollover draw.

For more information and an application form/s for either or all of the lotteries please speak to Annette in the office.