

# NEWSLETTER...December 2016



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## Parents Evening

Thank you to all the parents who came along to parents evening on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, it was a great turn out. If you were unable to attend, you can rearrange a time to speak to your child's keyworker or we can give you a copy of your child of your child's report card.

Our next Parent's evening will be in May 2017

## Parents Interaction Days

Do you have a learning experience that you could share with our children?

Would you like to create play dough?

Why don't you come along to our nursery and during the day to learn something new with your child. If this is something that you are interested in, please speak to a member of staff within the play rooms.

## Dates for your diary

Little Monsters Christmas Extravaganza: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Yellow Owls Christmas show: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children): Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Nursery Christmas Parties: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December, however children who do not attend nursery on this day can see **Santa between the hours of 3:00pm-4:00pm**. There are no time slots so you may have to wait for a short while.

Our nursery will be closed on:

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> of December 2016

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017

Our nursery will be opened normal hours from 8:00am to 6:00pm, however if you know that your child will not be attending nursery can you please let management know as we are an Eco school's nursey, don't want to have a lot of food wastage etc.

## Staff News

### Duckling Department

Kelly will now step up as a trainee senior for our Duckling department, she will shadow Annette and Kathleen to develop her confidence and leadership skills.

Stephanie will also be joining our duckling department as a Qualified Practitioner, she has experiences working in Australia and a Montessori Nursery. We are looking forward to her joining our Balmore family.

Well done to Jodie who will also be qualifying at the end of December, we wish her all the best for the future.

Mhari will be joining our duckling department as a student working towards her SVQ Level 3.

We will be employing a new student for the duckling department, our students are here to learn good practice and we would appreciate if parents have any concerns regarding their child's development or regarding the nursery, please speak to a qualified member of staff.

### Owl Department

We would like to say a big good luck and good bye to Alana, who will be leaving us at the end of December to start her new journey in a nursery which is closer to home.

Shannan will now step up as a trainee senior for our Owl department, she will shadow Annette and Kathleen to develop her confidence and leadership skills.

### Monster Department

Kathleen will now be our senior and deputy head of Balmore Kindergarten, working alongside the management team to continue improving the service we provide for our children.

As Ainsley, will be leaving us to have her little bundle of joy at the end of January, Kirsty will be joining our monster room. She has been taking part in the monster room to do certain activities with the children which build up attachments and positive relationship before joining the room.

### Identifying Our Staff

You can easily identify which staff are qualified, please see below:

Senior staff have **PURPLE TOPS**

Qualified staff have **DARK BLUE TOPS**

Trainee staff have **LIGHT BLUE TOPS**

Volunteers have **RED TOPS**

### Children's Waterproof Suits

We have sourced new waterproofs for our children costing £9.99, we have started to order them for our children in all playroom as this means they can explore the outdoors in all kinds of weather.



### Daily Diary Sheets for our Ducklings and Owls

We are looking to improve our children's daily diary sheets in the new year to reduce the amount of paper that we are using. If you have any suggestions please post them in our suggestion box, located in the reception area.



### Wow Wall

Our wow wall is located on the stairwell on the way up to our office area. Our wow wall is for parents to write achievements they have seen within the nursery, for example staff development or an area within the nursery. Please let us know what you think and leave a comment on our wow wall.

### Suggestion Box

We now have a suggestion box located in our down stairs in our reception area. Please feel free to post suggestions as this will be looked at on a weekly basis. This is also a way for us to improve the service we provide, we would really appreciate your thoughts and ideas.

### Christmas Holidays

Don't forget to book in alternative sessions to cover days that your child will miss due to our Xmas shut down on Mon/Tues 26th & 27th December and 2nd & 3rd January. Alternative sessions to be used by 31st March 2017.

### Fee Increase

NOTE - fee increase - from 1st January 2017 as follows

Additional hour - increased to £6 if added onto end of AM session

Additional hour - increased to £8 if added onto start of PM session

No more than one hour can be added. A request for two additional hours would be considered a full day session.

If you have any account queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office.



### Our Duckling Department



This month our ducklings are enjoying their new physical room and exploring risky play, our ducklings will be exploring a variety of Christmas learning experiences and creating lovely things to take home. Our children will enjoy exploring their senses and creating a feely box for them to enjoy.



### Our Owl Department



This month our owls are learning about Christmas through a variety of experiences and exploring their senses. Our big Owls will be practising for their Christmas show. Our owls will be using their imagination through use of their role play area, wrapping paper and gift bags. We will also be looking to see what Buddy and Elfie have been up to everyday. We would like to say a goodbye and a big good luck to our owls who are moving through to the monster room at the end of December. We would like to ask parents if they can donate old glass jars and shoes boxes for their Christmas gift ideas. Thank You!



### Our Monster Department



This month our little monsters have been working very hard rehearsing and creating props for their Christmas Extravaganza, all our children are looking forward to showing off their singing and dance moves. Our children have been enjoying taking part in Elfie's mischievous games every day.... Our monsters have been creating Christmas pictures, salt dough and much more. Can I please ask parents to ensure they have a spare change of clothes for their child as the children at times can become wet through water play or outdoor play. As of January 2017, we are going to start discouraging children bringing in home toys as this is distressing our monsters throughout the day, however if it is for attachment purposes, please speak to a member of staff within the Monster room.

From everyone here at Balmore Kindergarten,  
we wish you all a very Merry Christmas