

St Comgall's Preschool Newsletter

Parish Centre
C/O Parochial House
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Enjoying our first days at pre-school with our new friends!!!

Sept 2011

Settling In and Families

To start our first newsletter of the year we would like to say how pleased we are that everyone is settling into preschool well, and looks very smart in their sweatshirts. Could we ask parents/carers to ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled with his or her name. Children do not always recognise their own things and many have the same red sweatshirts.

It is always hard work finding jumpers, coats and bags but without names it becomes impossible.

To outline the educational curriculum we work on a monthly/themed basis, so each month a newsletter is sent home to explain the following theme, the learning outcome and parental support involved. It will also include a variety of songs and rhymes for you to share with your child. We will also be asking you to encourage your child to find and bring in an item of interest or colour for our display table. This will then be returned to you at the end of the month.

We operate a key worker system throughout the year. A member of staff will be responsible for observing your child and monitoring their progress and giving you feedback during your parent interview. The name of your child's key worker will be displayed in the classroom and we will notify you when we carry out parent interviews via the newsletter. Otherwise if you have any concerns about your child don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff.



We are working alongside the children this month, learning about families, friendships and routines. We would encourage good, positive behaviour, good manners and independence. This could be supported by you by encouraging your child to dress oneself, prepare breakfast and put on and fasten their own coats/jumpers. Throughout the morning we also reinforce the golden rules which we would ask that you also reinforce at home.

- Be gentle with our hands and feet
- Walk in preschool
- Our voices are quiet when inside,
- especially during story time
- Be well mannered - please and thank you
- Be helpful to adults and other children - help tidy up

As well as encouraging listening skills, turn taking and making new friends. We would also ask that you encourage your child to tell you about their day at preschool, routines, snack, stories and rhymes. We appreciate your support on this matter, thank you.

Remember!!!

- Our preschool **begins at 9am and finishes at 11.45am** we ask that all parents are punctual on arrival and collection as our afternoon class will be starting soon and we need to 'set up' our room again for the next session. Also if you are consistently late your child may begin to feel insecure.
- To support and extend the curriculum, we ask for a resource fund fee of £20.00 at the beginning of the year. This is to enable us to provide a variety of experiences for your child to enjoy and develop their learning.
- Please let us know if any mobile numbers or addresses need to be changed as soon as possible.

- Parent interviews will be conducted throughout the year. If you have any concerns please come and talk to us - we are here to help.
- Please could we ask that you bring in any **empty kitchen roll tubes** you have to enable the children to create works of art.
- Also in order to enable us to make an 'Our Family' display please could you **bring in a photo of your family** - anyone can be in it e.g. Grandparents etc.

Finally we will be introducing you and your child to the Media Initiative for Children (persona dolls) which are used in conjunction with the 'Together in the Park' media message cartoons which have been shown on television. These cartoons help build a better understanding of differences in our community and are linked with the Early Years Curriculum. There will be a parents information which will explain and outline the importance of the messages that are being encouraged through play, activities and discussions. We will contact you soon with further details.

Attached are songs and rhymes we will be singing and learning throughout this month, please could you also sing these with your child at home.

We appreciate all parental support on these matters and look forward to working with you and your child throughout the year. We hope that we all have a good year and a wonderful experience ahead.

Shelley, Maureen and Wanda

Preschool **CLOSED** Mon 26th Sept '11