

Have you registered your School Place for September? Details below.

Dowry House Newsletter

Spring Term 2017

www.dowryhousenursery.co.uk

Are your contact details up to date? Do we have the latest medical/allergy information?

Welcome back from everyone at Dowry House! We hope you all had an enjoyable break over the Christmas period and are looking forward to an exciting new year. All the children had a great time at the Christmas Party and really enjoyed meeting Father Christmas in his grotto; we will be sharing pictures with you in each child's learning journey. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to fundraising last year. A special thank you to Isabella's mum ('Smashing Cakes' of Preston) for donations of delicious cakes for our Open Evening fundraiser, which in addition to a nursery donation, raised £100 for Cancer Research.

Upcoming this term...

- Chinese New Year – 2017 is the Year of the Rooster and is celebrated on Saturday January 28th. We will be celebrating with themed activities including a Chinese Banquet in the week before.
- World Book Day - Thursday **2nd March 2017**. Children can dress up as their favourite book character and bring in much loved stories to share with their peers.
- Sports Day – After last year's success, we are holding our annual Sport's Day towards the end of Spring Term. It will be held on **Friday May 19th** at 10.30 a.m. A reserve date of Monday 22nd May is set if the weather doesn't allow it to go ahead. Most children love the atmosphere generated by those in attendance, so please bring along family and friends to cheer them on.
- Dance sessions, Sports Coaching and Swimming will continue this term. Please ask staff for any details you require.

As always there will be a variety of activities covered this term. As spring is seen as a time of new life, we will have our celebrated 'Bath a Baby' activity with a new born child. This will run alongside an opportunity for children to take home a baby doll for a night. We ask children with parental guidance to look after the doll as they would a real child. The theme – which we call 'All About Me' - starts with a "Guess Who" topic. Could you please provide a picture of your child as a baby (younger the better) to display on our frieze and talk to your child about their early years and what they were like as a baby. Children love to learn from their parents and family members and will then hopefully translate their memories to enhance the frieze board!

Additional Information:

- Is your child starting Primary School in September 2017? The deadline for Primary School Applications is January 15th. Call 01772 532190 to register, or alternatively if you need help then ask Shaun to guide you through the process.
- May we remind parents that children bringing a packed lunch do not need to include a drink as milk and water are provided throughout the day and we discourage the consumption of sugary drinks.
- Please ensure items of clothing and bags have your child's name somewhere visible. There are an increasing number of items going home with the wrong owner, if your child returns home with something that does not belong to them then please return it as soon as possible.
- Have you got a particular skill/hobby/job that would be of interest to our children? We are always looking to enhance the experiences of children, and in the past have had artists, musicians, diggers in the nursery garden and visits from unusual animals. The children love learning more about the world around them, and so if you could help in any way, please let us know.
- Regretfully we have to say goodbye to 'Katie Koala' in early January. Katie has completed her apprenticeships with us and wants to broaden her experience by working in a baby unit. We thank Katie for all her hard work and excellent care of the children.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Can we please remind ALL parents/carers that you must NOT open the door to allow anybody else into the nursery. For safeguarding reasons this can only be done by a member of staff. Be assured that any waiting period is only brief and it is in the best interest of all children to allow full safeguarding procedures to be followed.

Can we please also remind all parent/guardians to **sign** their child in/and out each day they attend. By the Nursery door there is a register of names. Please write a time on entry and a time on exit. Please also write who collected your child. E.g Mum, Dad, Aunt Maria. If your child's name is not on the list for any reason, please add it in a spare box.

Holiday Dates:

Half Term Week February	Feb 13 th – Feb 17 th inclusive. Open as usual. (No sessions for funded only children, though paid sessions can be booked)
Easter Holidays	April 3 rd – April 17 th inclusive. Open as usual except Bank Holidays (No sessions for funded only children, though paid sessions can be booked)