

# KETTON EARLY BIRDS NEWSLETTER.

January/February 2011.



## WELCOME BACK TO A BUSY SPRING TERM AT KETTON EARLY BIRDS.

The staff and committee hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year break. We would also like to welcome all the new families who have joined our setting this term, we hope you all settle in well and look forward to working with you and your children during their time with us. We appreciate your support and patience whilst we settle the children back into our environment along with our new children.

As many of you are aware we said goodbye to Sarah Blackham at the end of the autumn term as she moves into fostering young children as a new career, we will all miss her and wish her and her family well.

I am pleased to say that both Samantha McGuire and Julie Fowle, our deputy leaders will be taking on our setting leader role. Julie and Sam will be sharing the responsibility of running our sessions and Marie Garner will now be our deputy leader. We are very lucky to have such a strong team of staff, all with different strengths and skills that create a great balance for our setting.

We would like to welcome two new faces to our provision, Lucy Bowers and Leah Whybrow join our team as pre-school assistants. We hope they enjoy their time at Ketton as much as we all do. I'm sure you will make them feel very welcome.

### Admissions.

As many of you are aware as from September 2011 admissions into schools are changing. Children will be offered a place in reception from the September after their fourth birthday. This can be a full time or part time place. For our setting it means that we will only move children up once a year rather than three times, once a term, as it is now. Therefore we will not have spaces coming available throughout the year. We now have our admissions list for Sept 2011 - July 2012, so if you would like to increase their sessions, change their days or have a younger child who you would like to start during this period please let Sarah Long know asap. Our Wednesday morning session is already full until Sept 2012! Likewise if you wish to increase sessions from this summer term please let us know to avoid disappointment. If your child turns three between Jan 1<sup>st</sup>-April 30<sup>th</sup>, they are eligible to 5 funded sessions after Easter, if your child turns three between May 1<sup>st</sup>-Aug 31<sup>st</sup> they are eligible for 5 funded sessions from September 2011. Any questions please ask.

### COMMITTEE NEWS.

MANY THANKS TO THOSE OF YOU WHO SUPPORTED OUR CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE, WE MADE £77.00. OUR FUNDRAISING OVER THE LAST YEAR HAS RAISED A TOTAL OF £985.05.

### FUTURE EVENTS.

OUR NEXT FUND RAISER IS 'RACE NIGHT' ON SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH FROM 7.30PM AT THE BARNARDISTON ARMS. YOUR SUPPORT WOULD BE GREATLY RECEIVED.

### COMMITTEE MEETING.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> FEB. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG. WE WELCOME NEW FACES AND IDEAS. IF YOUR UNABLE TO MAKE THE MEETING BUT WOULD LIKE TO PUT FORWARD AN IDEA OR HAVE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE US TO DISCUSS PLEASE LEAVE A COMMENT ON OUR COMMITTEE BOARD OR SPEAK TO A COMMITTEE MEMBER.

### Staff Structure.

Sarah Long - Setting Manager.

Julie Fowle - Setting Leader & Child Protection Deputy.

Samantha McGuire - Setting Leader, Special Educational Needs Coordinator & Early Language Lead Practitioner.

Marie Garner - Deputy Leader & Equality & diversity coordinator.

Kim Miller - Assistant & Child protection coordinator.

Debbie Riley - Assistant & Behavior Management.

Nicki Trinder - Assistant.

Leah Whybrow - Assistant.

Lucy Bowers - Assistant.

Brenda Parkin - Play worker.

Rebekah Curran - Assistant.

Lorraine Noakes - Administrator.

### PARKING ON SCHOOL SITE.

There is strictly **NO** parking on the school site including Ketton Early Birds parking spaces. Everyone who has registered with us has signed an agreement which states that they understand this request. If parents and carers continue to park on the school site they are putting the future of our setting at risk, as the school governors may not renew our lease. If you are disabled and would like to or need to park on site please put your request in writing to Mr. Woodward, school head master.

**Look out for Katie and Grace's  
homemade cards – ON SALE SOON!**

Raising money for ASC resources.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP.

#### Parents & Carers.

Ways in which you can help and be a part of Early Birds Pre-school.

Send in items to top up our resources including clean recyclables for junk modeling, paper, newspaper, large buttons, envelopes etc.

Come spend some time with us and your child in a session to help children in play, reading stories etc. This can be regular or as a one off.

Share your skills. Come into the setting and help with a specific area such as our vegetable garden, art activities, cooking, music etc.

Keep your key person up to date with your child's development, needs and interests. Share comments and observations. Come along to our parent & Carer open sessions after half term to find out what your child has been doing.

### Reminders.

Please ensure your child's water bottle only contains water, occasionally staff will check the bottles. Please support our healthy eating & drinking policy.

Your child is welcome to bring in a photo album to keep at pre-school with photos of people or things that are special to them.

Labeling your child's shoes, cardigan, jumpers, water bottles etc would be really helpful.

Please feel free to use our lending library, now situated in the lobby. Choose a wallet, puppet or bear bag to take and share at home. Please log the items in and out under your child's name. We would love this special resource to be used much more.

#### **Have you got .....**

Old unwanted saucepan's, saucepan lids, metal spoons, small pieces of metal pipes/tubes, or bells to help with our outdoor music area.

Old cd's or dvd's to use for decoration not to listen to or watch.

### Term Dates.

#### **Spring term 2011**

Wed 5<sup>th</sup> January - Fri 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Half term Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Feb-Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Feb.

(Finish Thur 17<sup>th</sup> return Mon 28<sup>th</sup>)

#### **Summer term 2011.**

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> April - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Half term Fri 27<sup>th</sup> May - Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June.

(Finish Thur 26<sup>th</sup> return Tue 7<sup>th</sup>)

#### **Autumn term.**

Tue 6<sup>th</sup> September - Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Half term Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Oct-Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Oct.

(Finish Fri 21<sup>st</sup>- Return Mon 31<sup>st</sup>.)

Holiday club will run if a good demand.



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