



Mulberry Bush Nursery Group

Tottington Nursery Newsletter

Tottington Nursery School - Newsletter August 2008

Welcome

We would like to welcome all new parents to the nursery. We hope your children enjoy their time with us and that you feel happy with the care they receive.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

All children, from the youngest babies to the eldest pre-school children follow the EYFS curriculum. This will become mandatory in all nurseries from September 2008. We introduced it in September 2007 so all our staff are already competent and confident with the new legislation

Pre-school unit

In addition to the EYFS, our pre-school children are introduced to Jolly Phonics and the Oxford Reading Tree. Jolly Phonics is a learning process for the alphabet and the sounds of the letters. Each letter has an action that helps children to remember the sound. Every time the sound is heard or the letter is seen, the action will be made and vice versa. With constant reinforcement along with fun activities the children should learn the sounds and letters with ease. The Oxford Reading Tree has always placed real emphasis on the part speaking and listening plays in early language development. Much-loved [Biff, Chip and Kipper](#) stories, and the supporting teaching material and activities all actively encourage talk. The pre-school staff benefit from the support and advice from Pam Axford, our fully qualified early years teacher. All of the pre-school staff help deliver the Oxford Reading Tree and Jolly Phonics.

New signs

New signs have been ordered for outside both buildings. We have introduced the logo and colours of our Mulberry Bush Nurseries but wished to retain the name of Tottington Nursery School Ltd.

Nursery Education Funding

Children aged three and upwards are eligible for a government grant in the term after their third birthday. It is organised by the nursery. Those entitled to the grant in the Autumn Term will pay reduced fees for a period of 15 weeks starting on Monday 1st September 2008.

Security

Please make sure that all doors and gates are closed properly so that the children always remain safe.

Website

We are pleased with our updated website. We have combined our three nurseries on one website www.mulberrybush-nursery.co.uk, our other web address www.tottingtonnursery.co.uk is still active and will redirect you to the new site.

Refurbishments

The gable end of the main building has been clad in p.v.c. It makes the building look a lot smarter.

Charity Event 2008

Our annual charity event was a huge success. Tottington Nursery School raised £2,164 which was added to the money raised by Mulberry Bush Nursery, Whitefield and Mulberry Bush Nursery, Walshaw to give a combined total of over £3,800. Thank you very much for all your generous donations. This year we'd like to donate the money raised to 'The Good Life Orphanage'. This local charity has built and maintains an orphanage in Mombasa, Kenya. We will set up an ongoing link so that we can see exactly how the money is helping. We hope to give further support to the orphanage in the years to come. More information will be displayed in the nursery shortly or you can look at their website: www.thegoodlifeorphanage.com.

Menu

The menu has been reviewed and the order of the meals has been changed so that children who attend nursery part time can try something new.

Children's photographer

The photographer will be in nursery to take photographs of individual children on Wednesday 24th and Friday 26th September 2008. If your child does not normally attend on one of these days, please speak to your child's Head of Unit to confirm arrangements.

Pre-school leavers

Many of our pre-school children are leaving us to start primary school. We wish them well and hope they will continue to enjoy their early years education and make new friends along the way. Thank you to the parents who have completed the 'leavers questionnaires'. We agree with the popular sentiment that our staff are our best asset.

Vacancies

There are a limited number of vacancies in the nursery because the pre-school children leave us to start primary school. Existing children will move up through the nursery and new children on the waiting list start. If you do want to change or increase your child's attendance please speak to Avril or Kirsty as soon as possible.

Transfer of units

Many children transfer units at this time of year. They have several tasters in their new unit and the vast majority settle in immediately. If you have any concerns please speak to the Head of Unit.