NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2019

**WELCOME BACK**

Welcome back to the returning children and a warm welcome to all our new starters. We have had a gradual intake of children to help them all settle in.

We are now offering half day and/or full day sessions Monday to Thursday and a half day session on Friday morning up to a maximum of 27 hours per week. We only have a few available places left.

**MOTHER & BABY SESSIONS**

Before the summer holidays we took the difficult decision to discontinue the Mother and Toddler session on Thursday afternoon due to the lack of families using the facility.

We are, however, looking to restart it on Friday afternoon in a slightly different format. We would like to get some mums interested in running it as a stay and play session with some staff input. If you are interested in getting involved please contact either Marie or Dilys.

**OFSTED INSPECTION**

Since the last newsletter we had and Ofsted Inspection and we are pleased to report that we were given the overall rating of GOOD. All last year’s parents were given a copy of the report, but if any new parents want to see a copy please ask Annette in the office.

**BLUE ROOM {H.N. BASE}**

Over the summer holidays the Blue Room had a make-over, thanks to money received from the Disability Access Grant and also a donation from Achieve Bury. We hope that everyone who has seen it, agrees that it is a much more welcoming & attractive space for both children and staff.

**Light room**

We have also made a few changes to the light room and we would like to thank Kathryn Hindley who donated an interactive, illuminated ball pool, that the children love.

**STAFF NEWS**

There have been a few staff changes over the summer holidays.

Justine has moved into the Blue Room, with Sharlene moving in the other direction to the Yellow Room.

Bhavna has been given added responsibility in the Blue Room and is now the Room Leader.

Sharlene is our Communications Champion and has just qualified to be our Adult First Aider.

Tazeen is our Maths Champion as well as doing our Health & Safety. She is also undertaking SENCo training, so will able to help Anne Marie.

Kylie has given up her role as a key worker and Lisa and Lindsey have both become a key worker to one child.

***AUTUMN THEME***

The overall theme this term is Autumn. The children will be exploring lots of natural resources and after half term this will be linked to Halloween and Bonfire Night and leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

We appreciate your involvement in your child’s learning and we will be sending home a bag for you to support your child in collecting resources for our Autumn tray and wall displays. E.g. pine cones, twigs and dry leaves etc.

We are setting up a lending library in the corridor. Children will have the opportunity to choose a book to take home, read and share. The book can then be exchanged for another one

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We are encouraging the children to drink more milk & water. Milk and water are available at snack times and water is provided for the children throughout the day.

Can we ask parents/carers to make sure that your child’s clothing, particularly coats and shoes, are labelled with their child’s initials. This aids identification when we have to make sure that up to 20 coats and 20 pairs of shoes have to be allocated to the right children.

**INFORMATION & ADVISORY SERVICE**

We have welcomed Nan Cooper into the fold of the Information & Advisory Service. Each member of staff has their own area of expertise.

**Cheryl** – SEN appeals, EHC Plans, Health & Soc. Care & Disagreement Resolution.

**Nan** – Early Years, parental advice forms & draft EHC Plans.

**Karen** – Primary school & parental advice forms.

**Michael** – Secondary school & post 16

**Nicola** – on going cases, no new referrals as she reduces her hours until full retirement.

**PARENT WORKSHOPS**

Cheryl Wyatt & Nan Cooper from IAS will be holding several workshops at the Bolton Hub, Bold St, BL1 1LS. They cover all aspects of your child’s SEND journey. There are too many to mention individually, so for more information please check out the website wwwboltonparents.org.uk/workshops

There is also a Drop In session at COG with Cheryl & Elaine on Tuesday December 12th from 9.30am to 11.30am. No appointment needed. So if you have any questions your child and SEND procedures or Social care, call in for a brew and a biscuit.

DONATIONS RECEIVED

Donations received since the last newsletter are as follows:-

Weavers Arms collecting tin £ 65.32

Weavers Arms collecting tin £ 40.03

In memory of Sally Brookes £ 80.00

In memory of Audrey Mathews £ 95.00

Fancy That collecting tin £ 25.06

Jayden Taylor’s mum £120.00

**BOLTON HOSPICE LOTTERY**

 **AND**

**BWFC LIFELINE & GOLDLINE**

Did you know that COG is a partner in the Hospice Lottery and also BWFC Goldline & Lifeline Lotteries? This means that should you join either lottery, using one of our dedicated application forms, 35p of every pound you pledge to the Hospice and 70p of every pound you pledge to BWFC Lifeline/Goldline will be donated to COG.

The minimum payment is £1 per week for the Hospice, £1 per week for the Goldline and £2 per week for the Lifeline, it can be paid by Direct Debit, Cheque or Credit/Debit cards.

There are big weekly/monthly prizes.

**HOSPICE LOTTERY** – UP TO £1000 WEEKLY

**GOLDLINE** - £500 every weekday, £100s in consolation prizes and up to £5000 in the Goldline extra draw.

**LIFELINE** – Each week you have a chance of winning 1 x £2000, 4 x £100, 5 x £50 and 8 x £25 and up to £7500 in the Rollover draw.

For more information and an application form/s for either or all of the lotteries please speak to Annette in the office.

**UPCOMING HOLIDAYS**

Please be aware that half term is from Monday 21st to Friday 25th October 2019.