



*"Where learning and play
come hand in hand"*

Charity Number:
1020795

Tickton Pre-school and Play Pals, [NEWSLETTER NOV 2016](#).

(01964) 501744

Website: www.ticktonpreschool.co.uk

Email: info@ticktonpreschool.co.uk

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We will be offering 30hour places for funded 3 and 4 year olds from September 2017 – more information regarding how we intend to offer this will be made available from January.

Our term dates have slightly altered – please find a copy of term dates attached to your newsletter.

Christmas:

Friday 16th of December - 9:15am.

As part of our Christmas celebrations we would like to invite parents and families to join us 9:15am - 11:00am.

All children are invited and those taking part need to be at pre-school for 9:15am.

At 9:30am children will be singing their chosen Christmas songs to parents & families.

After the children's performance, the team have planned creative activities for children and their parents to take part in together, these will include;

- Making Christmas decorations, Christmas wrapping paper, Reindeer food...

(Grandparents are more than welcome). This session will run alongside a Christmas coffee morning, raffle, mince pies and Christmas mulled drinks. Please be aware that our Christmas coffee morning tends to be extremely busy.

Parents will be responsible for their children.

IMPORTANT: NO MOBILE PHONES/CAMERAS OR FACEBOOK DURING PERFORMANCE – we do care for children who can't be on Facebook for various reasons including keeping children safe and safeguarding children. To make sure our performance is inclusive please **DO NOT take pictures throughout the performance, the stage will be available at the end to take pictures with friends and family.**

Parent questionnaire: Please find attached your parent questionnaire – if possible please complete and return by DEC 16th.

BOOK CLUB: – Emma, our literacy coordinator, has setup a ‘book sharing club’ – if you wish to borrow a book or book bag from pre-school to share at home together please ask Emma or a member of staff at any time.

FEES: If you require an information regarding Pre-school fee payment/invoices – please forward your emails to our treasurer, Nicci Richardson, at nicci@nicollarichardson.co.uk (We would prefer (if possible) all fee payments to be made via BAC's, childcare vouchers or CHQ's as this is a lot easier to track, Thank you).

MATHS: We have excellent home links with parents and families, we hope you enjoy reading our attached information sheet. We want to encourage families to model maths vocabulary with children, including ‘maths’ writing for a purpose e.g. on a visit to the shops, counting steps, baking, looking at numbers outside... (Please share your observations with your key person).

WINTER PLANTS: – we would welcome any donations of winter bedding plants for children to use in the park area. Plants like winter pansies, cyclamen, and primroses - please pass all donations onto Sharon, thank you.

FOOD: Please can Parents / Guardians, chop grapes and other small fruits. Please could fizzy drinks and sweets be avoided in packed lunches. Unless your child has a specific favorite drink, please do not feel the need to send them in with a drink. We have milk and water available for children at all times. We also provide cutlery for children, so please don't worry about putting spoons in children's pack-up boxes as they often get misplaced. Please take the time to review the children's weekly snack menus displayed within the setting, so you can plan your lunches appropriately. **NO NUTS:** Please ensure that no products containing nuts are put in pack-lunches (including peanut butter). We care for children with very severe nut allergies that can result in hospitalization, we really appreciate your support with this.

- **WET WEATHER DAYS** – Children need to bring named wellington boots each day during “wet weather”. Please could these could be taken home each day as we have very little storage. This is to ensure the most can be made of outdoor play and learning whatever the weather.

We hope all parents feel they can speak to us at any time, please bring any problems/ ideas to us at any time. We really enjoy our daily communication and welcome close partnership working to ensure we as a team provide the best care possible for your children. We hope everyone enjoys the Christmas holidays x Helen.

We return to Pre-school after the Christmas holiday on TUESDAY the 3rd.

MATHS...MATHS...MATHS...

It's all about confidence...

For children to be good at maths, they need to feel confident about giving it a go. Praising your child for their effort, not their ability, will increase their confidence and make them hungry to learn more.

Positivity is the key...

Children who succeed at maths are usually the ones who enjoy it most, so remember - maths is fun, everyone!

Do maths together every day...

This might not sound very attractive, but guess what? You already are. Maths is everywhere - helping your child get dressed, baking together, going to the shops, singing counting songs, building with blocks - practically every activity we do with our children involves maths. All we need to do as parents is find the learning opportunities in these activities and we'll be helping our children develop into happy and confident mathematicians!

Number recognition...

Recognising numbers is one of the most important early steps for maths. You can begin by pointing out lots of different numbers to your child, such as the numbers on front doors, on the front of buses, on T-shirts, on television. After a while your child will recognise that the word "two" can also be written as a number "2".

Activities for number recognition:

2: Counting is an important part of early mathematics and a skill needed in our daily lives. Encourage children to count to five, perhaps through familiar number songs

2: Number spotting

Can be done anywhere! Talk about the numbers on buses, front doors, price tags or even on the back of footballers' shirts.

3: Numbers Hunt

Hide some cut-out numbers from 1-10 around the house and see if you child can find them - ask them to shout the number out loud when they find it.

4: Tower of cups

Building a tower of ten cups and counting them up as you build will help your child understand

that numbers have a value.

5: By using fun and familiar objects when counting can be an enjoyable way to learn - counting with; teddies, toy cars, marbles, shells or even chocolate buttons!

6: Model counting to your child, emphasise pointing to each object slowly and saying the numeral aloud at the same time.

7: Learning about "one more" and "one less" than a given number is important for estimating and being able to assess quantity, and leads on to simple addition and subtraction.

What next?

Once you think that your child has "got it" try moving them on to the next stage. Pretend to get the answer wrong by asking them "is this one number 4?" and see if your child corrects you. Telling them that they're better at this than you are will boost their confidence: nursery aged children really respond well to this.

Number recognition to ten and subsequently twenty and then further is a key part of early maths. To begin with children can be introduced to numbers up to five and when able to recognise these, move on to numbers to ten. A lovely way to introduce numbers to ten and develop your child's coordination is through hopscotch.

By talking about numbers and shapes in the environment children will develop the ability to recognise numbers and shapes more quickly e.g. mention the number bus you are catching, the shape of a sign, the numbers on houses, numbers in car registrations, telephone numbers. Give them the opportunity to see the different contexts in which numbers are used around them.