



Busy Bees Nursery Alton Ltd

Pre-school setting address:

Hawkins HQ, Chawton Park Road, Alton GU34 1RQ

Tel: (01420) 549593 (school hours)

Email: busybeesalton@yahoo.co.uk

Website: www.busybeesalton.co.uk



Busy Bees Newsletter 3 – Spring Term 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome back to the new term. We hope you had a very Happy Christmas. A huge thank you from all of us for your lovely cards and gifts, gratefully received!

We would like to welcome our new children and their parents. We hope you will be very happy during your time with us.

If you have any queries, concerns or need information about anything during the course of the term, please speak to Janet, Rowena or your child's Key Person.

Janet & Alison



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2016 - 2017

Spring Half Term Break up Friday 17th February
Return Monday 27th February

Parent Consultations: week of 20th March

Easter Holidays Break up Friday 7th April

Summer term starts Monday 24th April

Summer Half term Break up Friday 26th May
Return Monday 5th June

Summer Holidays Break up Friday 21st July

STAFF NEWS

We are delighted to welcome Sam Grace back to the Busy Bees team. Sam has worked with us previously before she left to have her daughter, and since then has gained experience at other local nurseries. Sam is taking on the role of Key Person for Red Class and we are sure you will join us in welcoming her back to Busy Bees.

HOME LINK FOLDERS

Please remember that we use the Home Link folders to distribute letters and invoices as well as the children's work so it is worth checking each time it comes home. If your child does not have a folder then please let Angela know and we will issue a new one. Remember to bring back your folder to each session.

MEET THE TEAM

Please see the Photo Name Board in the foyer so that you can 'put names to faces,' especially if you are new to Busy Bees. Below is a rundown of who's who and what they do at Busy Bees:

Joint-Owner, Nursery Manager & Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo)	Janet Duddridge
Joint-Owner & Administration Manager	Alison Stickland
Room Supervisor, SENCo & Parent Partner <i>Key Person - Purple Class</i>	Rowena Massey
<i>Key Person – Orange Class</i>	Lynne Funnell
<i>Key Person Yellow Class</i>	Angela Maton
<i>Key Person – Red Class</i>	Sam Grace
Bank Staff	Averil Mangan

SESSIONS

If you think you would like extra sessions after Easter then please let Janet know, in writing.

EXTRA SESSIONS

Providing we have space, we are happy to offer you the chance to book one-off sessions or maybe just an extra hour or two as and when you need them. We are not able to claim funding for extra hours you might book, so the normal hourly rate of £5.50 per hour applies.

We offer this on a first come, first served basis and if we take bookings for regular sessions these would be honoured first. To book a session/extra hours, please ask Janet.

ABSENCE FROM BUSY BEES

If your child is absent from Busy Bees for any reason, please let us know, either by phone, e-mail or text (contact details are at the end of this letter).

We are advised to follow up any unexplained absences, as part of recommended safeguarding procedures, so your help in this will be much appreciated.

CHILDREN'S BAGS

Please could we ask that the items in your child's bag are only those that may be needed by your child during the session. The bags are accessible to the children throughout the session as we encourage their independence in finding their own clothes etc.

In particular we ask that there is no medication of any kind kept in their bag, this should always be passed to a member of staff for safe storage.

If you need to bring anything other than your child's items into nursery then please speak to Janet or Rowena and we will store it somewhere out of the children's reach.

SNOW

There is still time for more snow and we are always hopeful at Busy Bees! Here is a reminder of how we will notify you of any closures:



- ❖ we will use our website www.busybeesalton.co.uk, and our Facebook page.
- ❖ We will also use the County's provision for emergency closures which means you can check: <http://www.hants.gov.uk/education/schoolclosures/>
- ❖ Local radio stations such as The Breeze and Eagle FM should also advertise school closures on their websites.
- ❖ We will also try to email parents for whom we have email addresses.
- ❖ If you do not have access to the on-line options, then please do not hesitate to phone us on the contact numbers at the end of this newsletter.

MINI BEES MUSICTIME

If you are free and not at Busy Bees on Thursday mornings then why not go along to Mini Bees Musictime!



Run by Alison, this is a friendly music group for babies/toddlers/pre-schoolers of all ages. Simply choose a group - 9.30 or 11.00 - and come along to join us for our fun singing session followed by refreshments and play/chat time. All Saints Parish Hall, Queens Road, Alton. No need to book - just turn up and join in, £4 per family.

Ask Alison or Janet if you would like to know more!

NAMING SNACKS AND DRINKS

Please remember that all snacks and drinks brought to Busy Bees should be named so that we can be certain of who they belong to. If you need a sticky label when you arrive in the morning, please ask a member of staff.



REMINDER - STARTING SCHOOL

If your child is 4 years old between 1st September 2016 & 31st August 2017 they will be due to start school in September 2017.

The deadline for applications has now passed. If you have missed the deadline or have any questions, please talk to Janet and she will try to help.

LETTER OF THE WEEK SHEETS

Each week the children bring home a letter of the week sheet. The idea is that your child brings the sheet home and if they want to they can colour the picture and have a go at copying the letter at the bottom. The activity could be extended by talking about things that begin with that letter. It is important to stress that it is not compulsory and is meant as a way of extending the activity to include you as parents.



Please do bring the completed sheet back to nursery so that we can display them. This often prompts discussion about sounds and letters which feeds in to our observations and assessments of Communication, Language and Literacy development for the children's Learning Journeys.

If you have any queries or concerns about this activity then please speak to your child's Key Person.

STORY SACKS & READING BAGS

Have you seen our Story Sacks and Reading Bags?



The sacks and bags are on a table in the small room: each contains a card detailing what is included. We ask that you sign out each one as you take it and then sign it in when you return it. We also ask that you only take one sack or bag at a time.

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If you haven't taken one yet please have a look at them and take one home to share together.

Any feedback you have on this scheme would be much appreciated as we want to make it as useful to you and your child as we can.

STAY AND PLAY

Please feel free to stay and play if you would like to. It is an opportunity to see what we do and how your child is getting on. Please speak to Janet or Rowena to book a session.

ALLERGIES

If your child's allergy or medication has changed please put details in writing to Janet. Please also see information on our General Information Sheet. Please ask if you need another copy of this.

WELLIES AND COATS

Please could you make sure your child brings a warm coat to each session. The weather is very changeable at the moment and whilst it might be mild when they come in it has often got colder or started raining later on.

From time to time we have problems with the wrong things going home with the wrong person, even when those items are clearly named. Please take care when collecting things from the coat rack and if someone other than yourself is collecting your child please ensure that they know what your child's coat looks like.

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL WELLIES, COATS, SHOES, HATS ETC ARE LABELLED – YOUR CHILD MAY HAVE THE SAME STYLE/SIZE AS OTHER CHILDREN.



We have a basket for gloves and hats for the Busy Bees children to use when they come in from the garden.

We have to clear the coat racks at the end of each day. Unfortunately we do not have space to store things left behind so please ensure you have checked the lost property box.

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CONTACT DETAILS

SCHOOL HOURS

Telephone : 01420 549593

Mobile: 07528 360887

e-mail: busybeesalton@yahoo.co.uk



OUT OF HOURS

If you need to contact Janet or Alison out of nursery hours, our details are:

Janet Duddridge

Tel: 01420 542451

e-mail: janet.duddridge@googlemail.com

Alison Stickland Tel: 01420 549831

e-mail: alison_willowdene@yahoo.co.uk

FINALLY.....

CAN YOU HELP THE PEOPLE OF ALEPPO IN SYRIA?

We would like to make you aware that The George in Alton is acting as a drop-off point for aid being sent to help the people in war-torn Syria. It is a heart-breaking situation which a Portsmouth based charity Don't Hate, Donate is aiming to help alleviate. The items being collected are shown below:



LIST OF AID

- SEWING MACHINES
- CLOTH NAPPIES
- DISPOSABLE NAPPIES
- WOMEN'S SANITARIES
- TOILETRIES
- CLOTHING (NO XL +)
- CLOTHES VERY GOOD/NEW
- CLEAN CONDITION
- BLANKETS
- TENTS
- SLEEPING BAGS
- NEW UNDERWEAR
- CHILDREN & ADULTS
- MEDICINE
- PLASTERS/BANDAGES
- WHEELCHAIRS CRUTCHES
- FOOD (LONG EXPIRY DATE)
- BOOKS
- HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
- BABY ITEMS
- TOILETRIES
- ALMOST ANYTHING
- CONTACT IF UNSURE

donthatedonateuk@gmail.com
www.donthatedonateuk.com

Don't hate, Donate

WE ARE ONE

Please check out the Alton to Aleppo Facebook page for more details of the drop-off times. Thank you for helping this special effort.

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