



## **Lydalls Nursery School and Chameleon Club newsletter – September 2016**

Welcome back to a new school year at Lydalls Nursery School and Chameleon Club. The children who were here before the holidays have all settled back in really well and we're enjoying welcoming new children and families to the Nursery School and to Chameleon Club.

### **Volunteers needed: Sofa Superheroes and Maths Magicians**

We are looking for parents, carers and Grandparents who can come in regularly through the year as volunteers, ideally sparing a regular hour at least fortnightly.

A 'sofa superhero' is a volunteer who can spare some regular time to sit on the sofa and share a story or an information book with our children. A 'maths magician' is someone who can play a simple turn taking number game with a small group of children.

We will run a DBS check on volunteers and provide a full induction that includes Safeguarding training.

### **Food and Lunchboxes**

We understand that some children may need to bring a lunchbox to Nursery as they are being picked up by a different person to the one dropping them off.

If your child brings a lunchbox to school please could these be stored on top of the cupboard in the Paint Room. Due to allergies we ask parents not to give children food made with nuts (Nutella spread included) or egg sandwiches.

Please remember to name the lunchbox too!

### **Lydalls Christmas Fair - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 3pm to 6.00pm**

We are going to hold a Christmas Fair on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December between 3pm and 6.00pm



The Nursery will be open as normal for the afternoon session because we will be using our training room to hold the event.

If you would be available to spare some time to help on that day with setting up, running a stall or helping to tidy up, please can you let Rebecca or your child's key person know.

At the moment we are collecting glass jars with lids. If you have any, please can you leave them with the office.

We will provide further details after half term about more things that you can help us to collect and other ways that you may be able to help!

### **Holiday club – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October**



Chameleon Club staff run a popular holiday club for children aged between 3 and 5 every school holiday.

if you are looking for childcare for that week we are taking bookings now. Please talk to Maggie in the office to make a booking or Annie Allen, our Chameleon Club co-ordinator, to find out more about the activities and experiences that are on offer.

### **Vacancy for a parent governor**

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor on our Nursery School Governing Body. Becoming a school governor means that you can help shape the direction of the school's future and help us to keep moving from strength to strength. School governors receive training and support in their challenging and exciting role and the range of skills and responsibilities that are developed can be used as an opportunity to build on professional skills for future or current employment. The work of school governor can include agreeing budgets, school policies and objectives, making sure budgets and objectives are being met, reviewing the work of senior staff and helping to appoint new staff. Please see the attached information for more details.

If you are looking for an interesting new opportunity come and speak to Maggie in the office, the clerk to our governing body or Liz Harding, our Chair of Governors. Deadline for nominations is Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 12 noon.

### **Can you spare an hour to help in our outdoor area? – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

On the morning of Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November Julie Vokins, one of our morning members of staff at Lydalls will be running a 'ground force' morning in the Nursery grounds.

If you could spare an hour to help with pruning, digging, planting etc we would be ever so grateful for your time, energy and support.



We will put up a list for volunteers to sign up in the entrance hall closer to the time

### **Applying for Primary School - Children who were born between 1.9.2012 and 31.8.2013**

Children who were born between 1.9.2012 and 31.8.2013 will be able to start Primary School in September 2017.

Now is a good time to contact local Primary Schools to ask to look around because you will get an idea of how Reception classes feel at the beginning of the school year. Our advice is to visit without your child in the first instance.

All parents must apply to Oxfordshire County Council for a school place between now and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017. This can be done online. You will not receive any forms from Oxfordshire County Council through the post. Please note that applications are not on a 'first come, first served' basis but if you do not apply by the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017 you are less likely to receive a place at your school of choice.

The Oxfordshire County Council website is full of advice, guidance and information, including a very useful online distance calculator that shows which schools are closest to your home.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/admissions-primary-infant-and-junior-schools>

**We know that this can be an anxious and sometimes overwhelming time for parents and carers. To find out more about the process of applying for a place at Primary school, including how we support the transition process at Lydalls, please come to a 'Starting Primary School' meeting on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 5.30pm to 6.00pm.**

### **Facebook and School Website**

Don't forget to look at our school website. It contains all sorts of useful information about the school including school policies as well as links to websites that may be of support or interest to families of young children.

[www.lydallsnurseryschool.co.uk](http://www.lydallsnurseryschool.co.uk)

We also have a Facebook page 'Lydalls Nursery School and Chameleon Club, Didcot'



## Dates for diaries

Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Start of Term 1 2016-17
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	New Children's Tea Party – Morning Children
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	New Children's Tea Party – Afternoon Children
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	'Starting Primary School' meeting 5.30 - 6
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	Autumn School Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b> Chameleon Club Holiday Club will be running at Lydalls
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Groundforce Day
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Photographer in to take individual photos
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Lydalls Christmas Fair 3pm – 6pm
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Trip to Cornerstone – <b>Nursery Closed</b> Chameleon Club open as usual
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Parties – <b>Nursery Closed</b> Chameleon Club open as usual
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec – Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	Christmas School Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b> Chameleon Club Holiday Club will be running at Lydalls 19 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> December
Tuesday & Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET Day – <b>Nursery &amp; Chameleon Club Closed</b>
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	February School Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b> Chameleon Club Holiday Club will be running at Lydalls
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Easter School Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b> Chameleon Club Holiday Club will be running at Lydalls 10 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> April and 18 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> April
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET Day – <b>Nursery &amp; Chameleon Club Closed</b>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank Holiday - <b>Nursery &amp; Chameleon Club Closed</b>
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	May School Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b> Chameleon Club Holiday Club will be running at Lydalls 30 <sup>th</sup> May – 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Last day of term 6 – <b>Nursery Closes at 11.45am</b> Chameleon Club is open as usual