

Silks Farm Nursery School

Setting the standards by which other nurseries follow!

NURSERY MATTERS

1st Edition, Autumn 2004

Introduction

Welcome to the 1st edition of ***Nursery Matters***, our quarterly newsletter. Whether your child has just joined the nursery, or in their last year, the purpose of this newsletter is to keep parents and carers informed of the exciting developments taking place at

Silks Farm Nursery School.

In ***Nursery Matters*** you will learn about future events and nursery developments. If there are any other topics you would like covered, please let us know.

Events and Activities

Fund raising success!

The Toddle Waddle organised by Debbie Spenceley our Baby Room Teacher, raised well over £1,000. Many thanks to all the children who took part and the parents/carers for raising so much money. This was a great success, exceeding the amount raised last year. Perhaps you saw the article that appeared in the Hunts Post in June relating to this, if not you may wish to read the nursery's copy?

Little green fingers.

Congratulations to Little Nursery for producing their first crop of runner beans. The children gained valuable experience of 'Knowledge and Understanding of the World' by sowing, watering and nurturing the seeds themselves. Pictures of this are on display in their room. Well done to all our little green fingers!

'Begging Corner'.

Early Years is collecting kitchen towel cardboard centres. If you are able to help in any way, please speak to Katie Wade. Any unwanted adult clothes that would be suitable for dressing up would also be appreciated by Early Years.

Little Nursery would be grateful if anyone has an old telephone. It does not need to work, as the wire will be cut off. It will be used during play sessions to help the children develop language and social skills.

Baby Unit is always on the look out for fitted or flat cot sheets, cellular blankets and toys that your children may have grown out of. If you have any of these that you no longer require, please see Debbie Spenceley.

In this issue.

- Selina takes over daily nursery management.
- Toddle Waddle a great success!
- Pam and Vickie return.

Events and Activities

Nursery Developments

Many thanks to all the parents/carers for taking the time to complete the recent Parent/Carer Questionnaire. Almost 60% of you took the time to give us your views on Silks Farm Nursery School, and the winner of the Parent/Carer Questionnaire draw was Heidi Gammon. We are currently in the process of analysing all the responses and will include further details of our findings in the next edition of *Nursery Matters*.

You will have noticed that we are in the process of a complete internal refurbishment of the nursery. Each of the rooms will be painted, receive new carpets/

flooring and maintenance work will be undertaken where required. As this work will only be done at weekends and outside of nursery hours, we envisage that the work may take at least a couple of months to complete. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience that this may cause you in the meantime.

Nursery refurbishment program underway.

Note to parents

As the children frequently take part in messy play activities, please make sure that your child has spare clothing in their bag, in the event that they are

Staff News

In view of the recent departure of Julie Magnus, Selina Swaby (Director) has now taken charge of the overall day-to-day management of the nursery. For those of you who do not know Selina that well, you are invited to her office for a chat and cup of tea. Selina is normally in the office at 8am leaving at 7pm each day.

Welcome back to both Pam Gratton and Vickie Mayes. They obviously realised what a great place Silks Farm is! Pam is back cooking delicious nursery food and Vickie rejoins as a Nursery Nurse. Since returning, Vickie has now gained her BA Early Childhood Studies and is currently working towards an honours degree in childcare. Well done Vickie!

Selina Swaby takes over day to day management of nursery.

After eleven years in childcare Vanessa Webb has decided to leave the sector altogether and has accepted a position with a well-known quality national food/retail group. We all wish her the best of luck with her new career. Taking over from Vanessa Webb as Toddlers Room Teacher is Tanya Young, formerly Vanessa's deputy. Being very capable, Tanya has been looking to take on more responsibility for a while now, so when she was offered the role of Room Teacher, you can imagine how excited she was. Congratulations Tanya, you will no doubt do well in your new role.

Another farewell goes to Natalie Jones from the Little Nursery. She left us recently and will be missed by both the children and staff.

Some parents and carers may have seen Val Oxley in the nursery. Val joined Silks Farm earlier this year. She is a mother of two and adores being with all the children here. Please feel free to introduce yourself, as she always has a smile ready and waiting.

Finally, a warm welcome goes to Derek Wrench our caretaker. Derek joined a couple of months ago and is responsible for the upkeep of our building and nursery grounds. Derek is being kept rather busy at present with the refurbishment of the nursery. So if you happen to pass by the nursery on a Sunday morning, or late one night and see someone wandering round, that will probably be him. With 7 acres of grounds and extensive premises, Derek is regarded as an invaluable member of the team.

Farewells!

It is the time of year when children in the Early Years Room will be leaving to start in Reception Class. Whether they have been with us for a short while or since they were babies, they and their parents will be greatly missed. Please pop in from time to time and let us know how your child is doing and what they think of Primary School life.