



Newsletter: February 2012

Rising Fives Pre-School Group, Whitchurch



We need your help...

Just before half term one of our parents, Christine Richards, brought her mobile dog grooming parlour, Shampooch, to Rising Fives for the children to experience. **Thank you!**

This experience really enhanced the children's learning and enthusiasm for that week. So we are on the lookout for parents, carers, family members with special talents or areas of expertise. This could be anything from your day time job to a favourite hobby or pastime.

We would like to be able to offer **enhanced learning experiences** for your children more often, so please fill in the slip below to let us know how you can **help!**



Stay and Play

Dear Parents/Carers,
Come and see the activities enjoyed by your child. It gives you the opportunity to see your child **having fun** and **learning** within our setting but also they get to see you in a different role. We **invite** and **encourage** you to join us for at least one session each term. **We look forward to you joining us soon!**

Staff Update

Gill Newton, one of our staff members, is working hard towards becoming an Early Years Professional. As part of Gill's postgraduate course at Winchester University, she will be planning activities and observing children at Rising Fives until the end of the summer term. Gill will shortly be sending out a letter to all parents, if you would like any further information or have any questions please speak to either Gill or Theresa.

Other Staff have also been on a three day 'Make it Happen' training course. This is enabling them to bring back lots of fresh ideas and inspiring ways to help the children learn.

£ Fundraising

Following on from the success of the Christmas Open day, one of our committee members, Jane Cumbers has raised over £1000 through her involvement in various fundraising events. We received matched funding from her employer BUPA. So **THANKYOU** Jane!

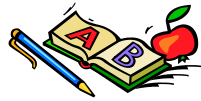
We have a few events coming up later this term which we would like your support with. Wednesday 13th March will be our **Quiz night** at the White Hart (see flier), please keep this date free and start getting your teams together! Any donations for raffle prizes will also be gratefully received.

During this term your children will be busy learning some new rhymes. We are holding a **Sponsored Rhyme Time** to raise some much need funds for Pre-schools on going environmental improvements. We hope you will support them in their fundraising too!

More information about both these events will follow shortly.

Naming Belongings (Please!)

Please could you label all of your child's belongings including: clothing, drinks bottles, lunch boxes etc. This will help us to easily match your child to their things and prevent things getting lost.



Our Learning...

Thank you to those of you who sent in bags of bits left over from Christmas, this led the children into Princes and Princesses, with a castle in the role play area. The castle then became the home for the Giant from Jack and the beanstalk with the children enjoying retelling the story. There were even golden eggs in the role play kitchen!

Just before the end of term some of the children were interested in dogs which led to the visit from the mobile grooming parlour, mentioned above. Who knows where the children's interests will lead us next?

We hope to provide a weekly update of the children's learning on our face book page so keep a look out and don't forget to visit us at Rising Fives Pre-School Group page.

Your View Counts!

Look out for our parent questionnaire, which will be sent out soon. Please complete and return to Rising Fives.

Thank you...

To everyone who gave up their time during Half Term to come in and deep clean all the toys and equipment at Rising Fives!



Toileting changes

We are currently seeking quotes for building works to create a more suitable toileting and changing area for the children. This will provide the children with greater privacy should they need nappies changing or clothing changed.

Until this work goes ahead we will be using an area created in the staff toilet to allow your child privacy at these times. Please keep your child's key person informed of any changes in toileting requirements as we are here to accommodate each individual child's needs.

Diary Dates

Monday 25 th Feb -	Spring term
Wednesday 13 th Mar -	Quiz Night
Tuesday 26 th Mar am -	Sponsored
Thursday 28 th Mar pm -	Rhyme time
Thurs 28 th March -	End of term
Fri 30th March -	Easter Holidays
Monday 15 th April -	Summer Term

Thank you for your continued support, any help makes a huge difference!

We are currently compiling a directory of people we can call upon to further support the children's interests and Rising Fives. Please could you fill in this slip and drop it back to pre-school.

Child's name _____ Parent/Carer name _____

I can offer the following skills/work (e.g. builder, hairdresser etc.) _____ which may further support the children's learning.

I have the following hobbies/pets (e.g. fishing, crafting etc.) _____ which may further support the children's learning.

I would be happy to come in to share my interests with the children and/or I would be happy to come in and support Rising Fives with fundraising and other tasks.

Signed _____ Date _____