

# Stars Pre-School Dogsthorpe



## Newsletter

### June 2016

#### Staff Update

Rokhma has now left Stars Day Nurseries to go on Maternity Leave and we wish her well for the future. Jayne, Karina, Suzanne and Chloe completed Speech and Language Training and are now able to apply the Teddy Bear Kit Speech resource in the Setting.

Rebecca and Nurjahan have successfully completed an online British Sign Language course to enable them to help children who sign in Pre-school.

Abi has completed an Early Help Assessment course run by Early Years and Jayne and Abi attended a Peterborough City Council workshop run by the Early Years Team on the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Reforms.

Tara has been liaising with local schools to develop our Transitions programme and Jayne attended a transition evening run by Peterborough City Council to discuss the transition process with our local schools. Tara has also organised visits to and from Dogsthorpe Infants School and has been heavily involved in ensuring this year's transitions are well supported and beneficial to all children.

Staff development has been a focus since April 2016 and we have run weekly training sessions for all staff to develop our Communication and Language Programme and focus staff on engaging in quality interactions with children.

#### The Learning Environment

We are extremely proud to announce that the garden has been updated and the Caterpillar Room has been redeveloped over the last few weeks. Staff have worked incredibly hard to provide a quality learning environment for children and we have invested in equipment and resources to support the educational programme we deliver. We aim to continue with these improvements over the next half term. Please do not hesitate to come in and have a look at the experiences on offer when you drop off your child as your feedback is always appreciated.

The environment is an important part of the learning experiences on offer for your child and we are looking to develop our planting, natural and international resources. If you are able to donate plants, wood, material, stones, multi-coloured bottle tops or resources that promote the multi-cultural diversity of the setting we would very much appreciate your help.

#### Reminder – Session Times and Absences

Stars Pre-school Dogsthorpe provide sessional care and learning and our educational programme starts promptly at 8:30am and 12:30pm each day. Please ensure your child is in session on time and also collected on time. Please aim to be outside Pre-school to drop off your child at either 8:30am, 11:30am or 12:30pm. To collect your child you must be outside Pre-school by either: 11:20am, 12:20pm or 3:20pm so we can bring out your child and give you feedback.

If you are late arriving at Pre-school the doors and gate will be shut and you will need to wait until a member of staff is available to let you in.

Children collected late will be issued with late collection fees. Staff are unable to look after your children after session ends as we must prepare for the next session. When a child is collected late the next session is disrupted as we are limited by the number of children we can take at one time by Ofsted



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regulations. If you are going to be late please call Pre-school immediately to inform us, our number is 01733 554416.

Ofsted and Peterborough City Council also require us to monitor children's attendance. Please telephone to let us know that your child will be absent and we can make a note on our attendance registers. If we do not hear from you and your child is absent for more than 2 days we will contact you by telephone so please ensure that your contact details are up to date.

#### Suncream and clothing

We recommend that all children attend Pre-school wearing suncream this term. This should be applied before session. Children that attend all day should have a named bottle of suncream in Pre-school so that we may reapply it. Please do not leave suncream in children's bags. We ask that you hand in suncream to the office so that we can add your child's name to the bottle and these will be kept in a box so that staff can apply easily.

You can purchase a bottle of suncream from us – please order this at the office but please note there will be a 50p admin charge added on all bottles of suncream.

Children should wear clothing appropriate to the weather conditions and **all personal items should be named**. Pre-school do not allow children to wear spaghetti strap tops (shoulders should be covered completely), flip-flops, or sandals that are not securely attached with ankle straps. Pre-school reserve the right to send a child home if they do not abide by our clothing rules.

Please note that the Pre-school rooms and garden can get very hot during the summer and we recommend that thin tops and then cardigans or sweatshirts that are easily removed are more appropriate. If you would like to discuss this in more detail please do not hesitate to come and see me.

#### Church Driveway

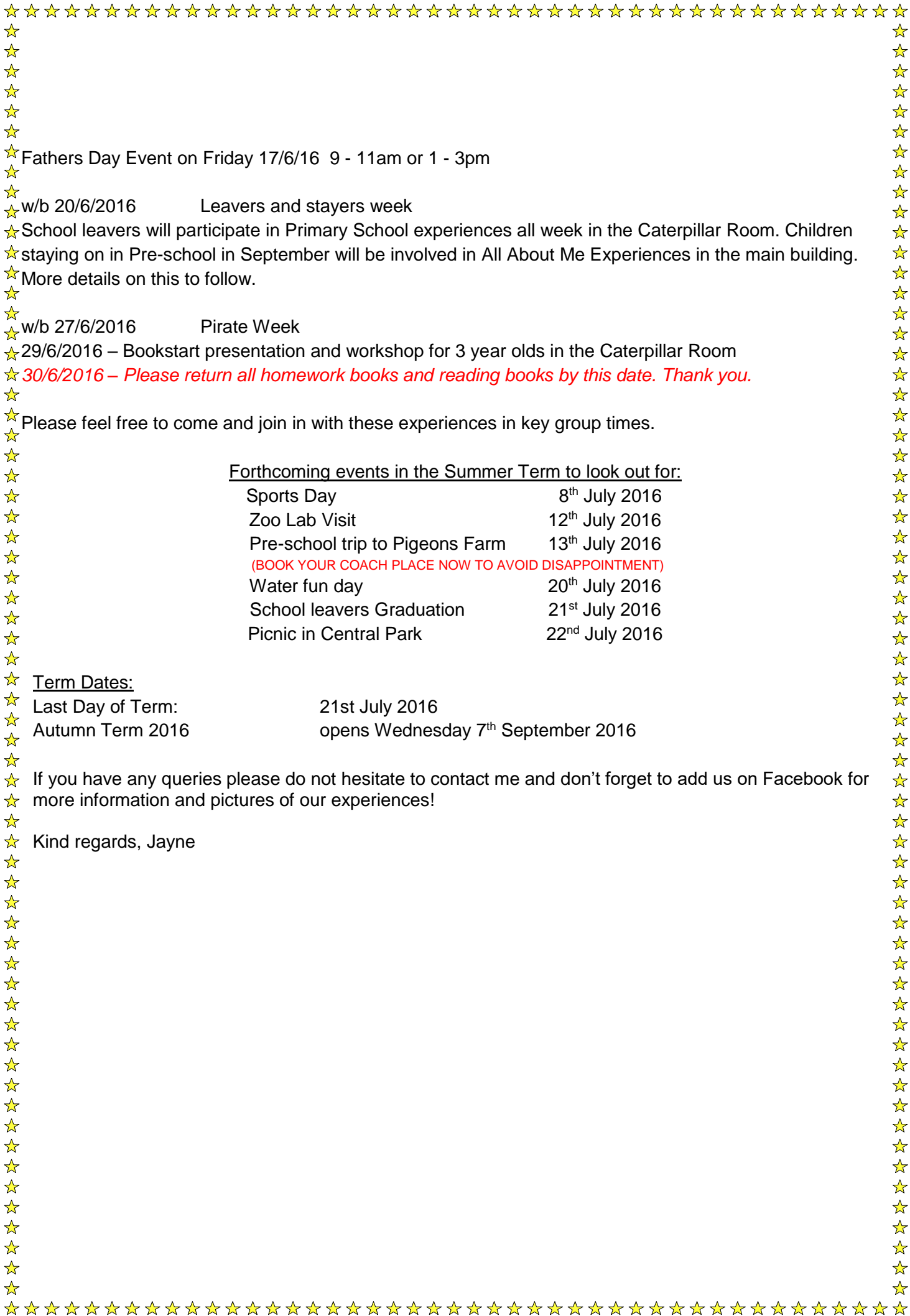
Children are very welcome to leave their bikes or scooters in the gated area near the Caterpillar Room during session. However we would ask that children do not ride these on the Driveway at any time as the Driveway can become congested with people. Prams and buggies should also be left in the gated area and not near the doorway or along the driveway as they are a trip hazard for young children.

Please do not stand near the entrance doors as this hinders staff when they bring out children to you for feedback. We have had a parent request that a queueing system be put in place for collection however we feel that this would be difficult to manage and would take us considerably longer to bring out children. We therefore suggest that you stand to the rear of the driveway near the fence so that we can see you clearly and we will endeavour to bring out children on a first come first served basis (child readiness permitting). We do have 60 children to let out so please be patient during busy times. Thank you.

Experiences on offer this month: This is a busy half term for children and staff. Dogsthorpe Infants School visits are taking place and Reception Teachers will be visiting the Pre-school throughout this month. If you are attending a Reception visit for your child this month please let us know. The homework and reading scheme will finish this month and will be revamped for the Autumn Term so please remember to return all of our books and homework folders by the 30/6/2016.

W/b 6/6/2016            Messy Play week  
Messy play open session on Thursday 9/6/16 9-11am or 1-3pm

W/b 13/6/2016            Outdoor learning week



★ Fathers Day Event on Friday 17/6/16 9 - 11am or 1 - 3pm

★ w/b 20/6/2016 Leavers and stayers week

★ School leavers will participate in Primary School experiences all week in the Caterpillar Room. Children staying on in Pre-school in September will be involved in All About Me Experiences in the main building. More details on this to follow.

★ w/b 27/6/2016 Pirate Week

★ 29/6/2016 – Bookstart presentation and workshop for 3 year olds in the Caterpillar Room

★ *30/6/2016 – Please return all homework books and reading books by this date. Thank you.*

★ Please feel free to come and join in with these experiences in key group times.

Forthcoming events in the Summer Term to look out for:

Sports Day	8 <sup>th</sup> July 2016
Zoo Lab Visit	12 <sup>th</sup> July 2016
Pre-school trip to Pigeons Farm	13 <sup>th</sup> July 2016
<i>(BOOK YOUR COACH PLACE NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT)</i>	
Water fun day	20 <sup>th</sup> July 2016
School leavers Graduation	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2016
Picnic in Central Park	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2016

Term Dates:

★ Last Day of Term: 21st July 2016

★ Autumn Term 2016 opens Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016

★ If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me and don't forget to add us on Facebook for more information and pictures of our experiences!

★ Kind regards, Jayne