



NEWSLETTER – October 2018

Business Manager (sessions) -

Penny Harland penny.harland@croftpreschool.com

(Helen Bennett helen.bennett@croftpreschool.com)

Finance Officer (invoices) - lynn.reardon@croftpreschool.com

Business Officer (funding) - bev.swindell@croftpreschool.com

Telephone 01925 764565 **Email** admin@croftpreschool.com

Update

September has been a very busy month and has involved us helping children and staff settle in to new routines after a long summer break and a renovation of the setting's layout and organisation.

We've focused our areas of learning around New beginnings, All about me, Holidays, travelling & languages, to incorporate notable days such as National read a book day, International literacy day, International talk like a pirate day, European languages day and World space week. We are currently focusing on Harvest and Autumn, (Learning plans are visible on the Parent information and Learning boards.

We've welcomed a new member of staff, Kate V., who is proving to be a valuable addition to the team.

Planning, Observing and Assessing

For this term, I have been busy planning activities to cover the 7 Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) areas of learning (Prime areas: Personal, Social & Emotional Development, Communication and Learning and Physical Development; Specific areas: Literacy, Numeracy, Expressive Arts & Design and Understanding the World).

The staff team have worked incredibly hard in implementing the activities and subsequently making observations and assessments using Tapestry, The Early Years Online Learning Journal which allows us to track a child's progress using the EYFS framework and Characteristics of Effective Learning.

Parents' evening

Our staff are available on either 17th/18th October, if you would like an update on your child's progress. Please arrange this directly with your child's keyworker. Alternatively / In addition, you can give consent for information to be passed on electronically using Tapestry (please see consent form attached).

Reflective practice

(for keeping children safe & secure)

After reviewing our **Safeguarding** procedures, the decision was made to have only one point of entry and exit i.e. via the electronic gate. Please ensure that the list of adults permitted to collect your child is up-to-date.

We have held numerous **fire drills**, some just within our setting and a couple alongside with school. We shall continue with this practice at least once a month.

After monitoring **drop-off and collection times**, we have made the decision to apply early drop-off/late pick-up fees to those who have consistently failed to adhere to their session times. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to change your session times. We are legally obliged to comply with Ofsted's statutory adult:child ratios. Failure to do so could result in an instant closure of the setting.

Extra-curricular Activities

We've had a visit from Activate fun to explore how we develop multi-sports activities. Kate U. participated in a yoga-training course over the summer and has started delivering yoga sessions with the children. Kate V. is a qualified dance instructor so there are plans to explore dance as a way of helping the children's expressive arts and physical development.



NEWSLETTER –
October 2018

Business Manager (sessions) -

Penny Harland penny.harland@croftpreschool.com

(Helen Bennett helen.bennett@croftpreschool.com)

Finance Officer (invoices) - lynn.reardon@croftpreschool.com

Business Officer (funding) - bev.swindell@croftpreschool.com

Telephone 01925 764565 **Email** admin@croftpreschool.com

Last but not least...

Wednesday 17th October officially marks Helen B's last working day at Croft Early Years. On behalf of all the parents, staff and trustees, I would like to thank Helen for all the time, energy, care and attention she has put into Croft Early Years over the years that she has been here. We wish her happiness and good health in her new ventures.

Diary dates

12/10/18 National Spain Day

18/10/18 Parents Evening

19/10/18 End of half-term

Harvest Time

29/10/18 Term starts

5/11/18 Bonfire night and fireworks

6/11/18 Diwali (Deepavaali) – Hindu

10/11/18 World Science Day

11/11/18 Armistice Day; Origami Day

16/11/18 Children in Need

19/11/18 Road Safety Week

22/11/18 Thanksgiving Day

30/11/18 St. Andrew's Day

1/12/18 Start of Advent

2/12/18 Start of Hannukah

12/12/18 Christmas Performance

14/12/18 Christmas Jumper Day

14/12/18 Christmas Party

18/12/18 End of term

25/12/18 Christmas Day

3/1/19 Preschool re-opens