



Morley Newsletter

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Happy New Year to all Kaleidoscope staff, the children we care for and their families

Staff Training 2012

Our annual staff training day will be held on Tuesday 3rd January 2012. Catherine Whitaker from Early Years will be our guest speaker and will be delivering the training on the changes to the EYFS. Feedback will be given on the February newsletter.



Staff Changes

Alison Turner the Senior Manager will be returning from maternity leave on Wednesday 4th January. Tracy Clegg will remain at Morley for a few weeks to ensure a smooth hand over. Christina Macdonald from Green Room will be joining the Yellow Room team in January. We will be employing a new apprentice in the New Year, until then Jade Ashman our supply member of staff will be working in Green Room.

Chosen Charity 2012

After a suggestion from a parent we have decided the charity we would like to support this year is Wheatfields Hospice. Wheatfields are a national charity providing health and social care services in local communities. Wheatfields offer their local communities 4 million hours of care, over 100,000 days of long-term residential care, more than 8,000 volunteers and are one of the largest specialist palliative care providers in the UK. They provide compassionate care services to people with long-term and end of life needs. They do this in hospices, residential care centres, in the community and in people's homes and support families, friends and carers. Wheatfields are committed to improving standards in long-term and end of life care and have an ongoing programme of innovation and research.

We will be taking part in many fundraising activities throughout the year. Keep a look out on the Parents Notice Board for further details.

Balance bikes, why, what and how?

Children can start riding balance bikes from as young as 18 months old. They keep their feet in contact with the floor, so they needn't be scared of falling. This gives them great confidence and independence as they are able to just ride around without stabilizers, which can feel awkward, and unsteady. They can be surprisingly fast with them and stopping a balance bike couldn't be easier - the children naturally drag their feet to slow themselves down and come to a quick and easy stop. Balance bikes don't have pedals so children can concentrate on developing their sense of balance - essential for riding a real bike. The transition to a bike with pedals will be very quick and easy as all they then have to learn is to co-ordinate the pedal action. CycleStreet in Heworth, York have the full range of Puky balance bikes, scooters and trikes in store. Armed with this newsletter, you will receive **10%** discount off any bicycle from CycleStreet! <http://www.cyclestreet.co.uk> or tel 01904 427510.

Directors' Corner January 12

I've just about come down from the high of winning the Women in Enterprise Award last month but apart from the publicity, the nurseries have benefitted hugely as we are working in partnership with another award winner. Jon Dean from CycleStreet based in York is now supplying us with new bikes and trikes for all our nurseries so please read the article he has written regarding balance bikes, above. Steve and I both hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and New Year. We did but we have also been very busy over the holidays as usual with refurbishment works going on throughout the nurseries. Gildersome has had a brand new commercial kitchen installed and had a total re-paint earlier in the year. The Acomb nursery had a total re-paint last month and we will be fitting new carpets in Acomb's reception and KOOSH areas this month. We extend a warm welcome to all our staff, the children we care for and their families as we enter into 2012, our year of new beginnings. - Jane

Polite Notice

Please be aware the parking bay to your left as you enter the car park is a staff parking area. Parents are welcome to park there if the nursery car park is full however you are at risk of being blocked in by another car. If you become blocked in, please be patient until staff can come out and move their car.

It has been brought to our attention that parents are parking in front of the fire door. The safety of the children is paramount therefore this exit **must** be kept clear at all times.

Deliveries are supervised by staff and they ensure enough clearance is left to exit the building in the event of an emergency.

Please ensure when parking your car you do not block in any other vehicle.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Charity Fundraising for January

Morley fire station have approached us and asked if we will take part in an unwanted clothes scheme. If you have any unwanted clothes, please bring them into nursery. The clothes will be bagged up and sent back to the fire station where they will be weighed and we will receive payment for them. We will then put the money towards our chosen charity. Thank you for your continued support.

Charity Grand Total 2011

Thank you to everyone who took part in raising money for our chosen charity in 2011, we raised a grand total of **£1367**. Your support is very much appreciated.