**FROM THE HORSE’S MOUTH** ![C:\Users\Rockinghorse\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\I8GAYM8N\MC900222914[1].wmf]()

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and wish you all the best for 2013!! We would also like to thank you for all cards and gifts over christmas.

**Dates for 2013**

February Tuesday 19th is Parents evening for the whole nursery. We will soon have sheets up so you can book to speak to your child’s key worker and discuss your child’s progress and have an opportunity to look through their learning journeys. It is also a chance to meet up with other parents and see the whole nursery. If you cannot make this date you can make an individual appointment with your keyworker.

Transition Parents Evening- In June we will be planning a parents evening for those parents of children going to school in September, we will use this as an opportunity to talk to parents about the transition to school and how they can help prepare their child and what we will be doing to help with this transition. Date nearer the time.

**Term Dates**

We are open all year other than our Christmas break and bank holidays however for children in receipt of 3 year funding and who are term time only these are the dates for the year (These will be on our website too). If you want to book your child in during the holidays you can arrange to do so and we shall charge you for a session or at our hourly rate.

**February 11th-15th returning on the 18th Feb**

**March 25th – April 5th returning on the 8th April -Easter Holidays**

**March 29th Nursery Closed- BANK HOLIDAY**

**April 1st Nursery Closed- BANK HOLIDAY**

**May 6th- Nursery Closed- BANK HOLIDAY**

**May 27th –Nursery Closed- BANK HOLIDAY**

**May 27th – May 31st returning on the 3rd June**

**July 25th-August 30th returning 2nd September -Summer Holiday**

**Welcome back Natalie-** Natalie left us in Dec 2011 to have a baby. She is now back with Baby Emilie in the baby room. Natalie will be in the Preschool room and we look forward to working with Natalie again, she brings with her lots of experience as a level 2 Nursery Assistant and a new mum.

**Room Changes-** We have decided to make some room changes and staff will be moved; we have given this a great deal of consideration considering the relationships between key workers and children and will make the process as smooth as possible. These changes will allow staff to gain experience in different areas whilst sharing their skills and knowledge keeping our team fresh and updated and ready for the challenges ahead as we move forward with the new Early Years Foundation.

**Bristol Standards-** Well done to all the staff as we have been awarded the Bristol Standard for our interim submission this is a quality assurance framework that is vigorously assessed to demonstrate evidence of how we are developing our practice and continually improving our provision. WELL DONE EVERYONE!!!!!!

**Text service**- Every family should have been receiving texts from our teacher to parent texting service We are sending a text to one carer in each family so please let us know if you have not been receiving these texts so we can update your details.

**Nursery Flier-** We have fliers now promoting our nursery. Please feel free to share these with any friends or family who may be looking for a nursery place. We have places available in all the rooms at present so this is a good time to let friends and family know about us.

**Facebook-** Please log into our Facebook page this is another way of keeping in touch with you all.

**Website**- Hopefully this will be up and running very soon so keep on checking. We will have newsletters on the site and important dates as well as regular updates of photographs and news of what we have been doing**.**

**Mossy Green kids**- will continue on a Friday and Monday morning Pippa will be keeping you all up to date with her newsletter later on in the term. I am sure there will be lots of growing and learning this term taking place in the garden!!!!!!

**New consents-** We have added to our consent document and are now asking for consent to share your child’s learning journey with prospective parents during show rounds. We would also ask for consent to include your child’s photo in others learning journey if they are engaging in an activity with your child or in the background – previously we would obscure the face. We hope these are agreeable to most parents if you would like to discuss this further with either Sue or Fiona please do not hesitate to speak to us. Staff from each room will be asking you to sign these consents over the next few weeks.

**Clothes -**Please can we remind everyone that your children need to have a warm coats, wellies, gloves and hats so they can really enjoy our outdoor experiences. We have purchased some more waterproof trousers so hopefully we will keep them all dry. We would also suggest that your child has slippers or soft indoor shoes to change into at nursery to keep the carpets nice and clean and their feet nice and warm!!!

**WOW Board-** Please do not forget to share your child’s special moments and achievements with us on our WOW board, this is a great way of hearing about what your child is doing at home. It gives the child a chance to talk about what they have been doing or what they have achieved and this strengthens home nursery bonds whilst showing the children how special they are!!! We really do love hearing about what great things your children can do!!!

**Parent Questionnaire-** Please find attached our annual parent questionnaire. We would really appreciate it if you could take the time to complete this as this enables us to reflect upon our provision and gives you an opportunity to share your concerns, comments, and ideas. We need to know what we are doing well and what we could improve upon so we can be sure to deliver the best care and provision for your children.

**Computers-** A BIG thank you to one of our parents who has organised for us to get 4 computers from a local business- this is going to have an amazing impact upon what ICT opportunities we can offer the children- THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!!

**Story telling week**-(25th February -1st March). It can never be under estimated the positive effects of reading to children and we would like this week to be full of storytelling and reading by different adults and children so we would like to invite relatives (dads, grandparents’ siblings etc.) in to read or tell their favourite stories. Please talk to the staff about coming in to share your stories.

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