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# Preschool Matters

Ancells Farm Community Preschool Newsletter

Issue 6, November 2015

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## Letters and Sounds

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Welcome back to the second half of term. We are talking to the children about winter and celebrations as well as practicing our Christmas singing. We'll be sending a song home each week for you to practice with your child ready for our Christmas production on 17th December.

This term is focused on the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) Phase One which promotes development in Communication, Language and Literacy, teaches oral segmenting and blending familiar words. This may sound complicated but it is all taught through play, games, stories, rhymes, instruments, music and songs. We will be listening to the children talk and encouraging their confidence. The letters that we will be focusing on are A, I, F, N, P S & T.

The children have been enjoying their



Pictured above: the children enjoying our Halloween party at the end of last term.

French lessons with Vicky (Joseph's mummy) Thank you Vicky. If you are able to offer your time to come in and help, from reading a book, baking, art or ICT we are always grateful.

*Jue*

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# Messages and updates

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## Chairman Needed !

As reported in our last edition, Ancells Farm Pre-school is run by a committee of volunteers. Our committee members (Trustees) ensure that the preschool fulfils all its legal obligations and operates efficiently. As well as coordinating fundraising activities the committee is responsible for the overall management and organisation of the setting. This committee of trustees is a legal requirement and we need a certain number of members and positions to be filled (chair, treasurer and secretary).

Our current Chair is stepping down for personal reasons. She has spent many hours supporting the preschool and all the staff and committee are extremely grateful for her very hard work.

This is a responsible but extremely rewarding role and we are advertising with volunteering organisations as well as on Fleet Parents, but would particularly like to hear from any preschool parents who might be interested. You do not have to have done anything similar before but if you've either chaired meetings or committees in any context (or think you could) or would like to provide leadership for the preschool, then it could be for you. Beyond monthly meetings, this role can take up as much time as you want it to and there will of course be support from the rest of the committee. Get in with our secretary Claire Truswell for an informal chat [afcpssecretary@gmail.com](mailto:afcpssecretary@gmail.com) (general members always welcome too)

## Why Volunteer ?

- ◆ Are you interested in learning new skills?
- ◆ Would you like to meet new people?
- ◆ Would you like to share your skills, time and ideas with others?
- ◆ Have you ever wanted to improve the running of your child's setting?

Volunteering for the committee offers an ideal opportunity to become more involved in this aspect of your child's life. It will also make a real difference to how your setting is managed. You will personally benefit from this experience by meeting with other parents, updating existing skills and learning new ones as well as putting something positive back into your local community.

### OPPORTUNITIES

Working as part of a pre-school committee is all about opportunities – for the pre-school, but also for yourself – and from small beginnings, you could find yourself taking a new direction in life

# Messages and updates

## ***The seasons of goodwill ... request for donations !***

The Christmas Bazaar will take place on **Sunday 13th December** from **1pm—3pm**. It is a vital fund-raising event for the preschool and all the money raised goes directly towards improving the setting for the children. With funds raised last year we were able to purchase the climbing equipment that all the children so enjoy playing on.

Here are some important ways you can help :

- Donate books and good quality toys and home wares for White Elephant stall
- Bake cakes for cake stall
- Ask your employer to donate a raffle prize— we have an iPad but need more BIG prizes



If you have items to donate please bring them into the preschool. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## ***Making a Noise !***

A top priority of the preschool committee has been to raise the profile of our preschool. We have a real gem in Ancells Farm with some of the most talented early years practitioners in Fleet. We want to ensure all local parents know about this excellent offering.

You may notice flyers posted on notice boards around town, updates on Fleet Parents, ads in Fleet Life and we are currently undertaking a leaflet drop the Ancells estate. We are also going to be tweeting regularly— if you are on Twitter please follow us @afcpsfleet and be sure to give us some re-tweets as we build up a following.



### ***Good OFSTED - Spaces Available***

Early years care from 2 years to school age

Open Monday to Friday 9.15 a.m. – 1 p.m.

- Fun and stimulating environment
- Inclusive and varied activities
- Enclosed outdoor play garden
- Skilled and experienced staff
- Special needs welcome
- Strong community links
- Call to arrange a free taster session !



“...Children are happy. Their behaviour is excellent because they have staff that are caring and listen to them, and who make learning fun. ”

[Ancellspreschool.co.uk](http://Ancellspreschool.co.uk)

[info@ancellspreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@ancellspreschool.co.uk)

07923477904

Based in Ancells Farm  
Community Centre

Registered Charity No. 1021121 OFSTED Unique Registration Number: 110040 PLA Membership No. 14273

Ofsted Report 2014

If you spot a place not displaying our poster please let us know!

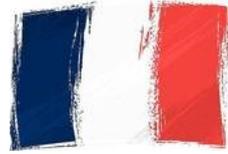
# Thursday is now Jeudi ...

## *or French class day !*

If your child attends pre school on Thursday you may already know that since September we have been doing short French classes with the children. We're lucky that some of our children already speak more than one language and these French sessions build on our successful language weeks last term when the children learned to count in French, Spanish and Hindi. Pre school children tend to pick up languages quickly; they do not have the self consciousness older children and adults sometimes have about trying to speak another language; and they find it easier to make sounds from other languages meaning their accents are often better. In addition, there is evidence that speaking more than one language can help children to understand complex concepts as they subconsciously learn that words in different languages sometimes mean slightly different things.

So far this term we've learnt some French numbers, some animals, how to say "jump (or hop)" and some size words. All of which has helped the children to dance and sing along to the "Hop little bunnies" song in French. Listed on the right is a reminder of some of the words the children have been learning in case you want to practise with them.

NB. Our French sessions are run on a voluntary basis by one of our parents. If you have a skill to share with the children either on a one off basis or regularly please do get in touch with a member of the pre school staff.



Parlez-vous  
français?

Bonjour	Hello
Au revoir	Goodbye
Sauter	To jump / hop
Saute!	Jump! Hop !
L'éléphant	Elephant
La girafe	Giraffe
Le lapin	Rabbit
Le Canard	Duck
Le crocodile	Crocodile
Le serpent	Snake
Le renard	Fox
Petit	Little
Grand	Big
Un	One
Deux	Two
Trois	Three