



Hillside Pre-School Newsletter

www.hillsidepreschool.co.uk

6th April 2011

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been a busy and fun term! We wish you a very happy Easter and hope you enjoy eating lots of chocolate eggs!

We already have plans for the remainder of the year ahead at Hillside, so please read on to find out what's going on this half term and get dates in your diaries for upcoming events. Our events are organised to raise money for Hillside for extra activities and equipment, and with the government *still* making cuts in childcare this year, the funds are needed more than ever!

Thank you for your support
The Hillside Committee

Talking and Listening Workshop

On **Wednesday 4th May** after drop-off approx. **9.30/9.45am until 11.45am** in the Florence Brown Hall at Hillside, a tutor from the PSLA will be giving a talk. The aim is to demonstrate the importance of early communication and explore ways of communicating through play and everyday activities. Tea and coffee will be available and there will be a chance for you to have a chat with the tutor and Emma at the end, so please put the date in your diaries and look out for further details. We look forward to seeing you there!

Dates for your diary:

Easter Holidays	Mon 11 th - Mon 25 th April
Tues 26 th April	Inset Day / Hillside CLOSED
Friday 29 th April	CLOSED Royal Wedding
Wed 4 th May	'Talking & Listening' Workshop
Fri 6 th May	Frock Swap and Cocktail Evening
Sun 15 th May	Car Boot Sale
Mon 16 th - Mon 25 th	National Walk to School Week

Update from Emma - Exciting new term ahead - Summer 2011!

Dear Parents,

The Spring term was highly successful filled with lots of exciting activities such as growing seeds, talking about people who help us, Chinese New Year - where the children had fun playing with noodles and eating spring rolls!

Due to the success of our Quiz Evening we have purchased a new bench, trampoline, wheelbarrow, tunnel and balls for our lovely extended garden! We have been using it on a daily basis and the children love it outside! So a HUGE THANK YOU to those who helped raise the funds from the Quiz night. What a success!

I look forward to seeing many of you at the 'Talking and Listening' workshop on Wednesday 4th May after Pre-school drop off.

Kind regards,

Emma Weidner
Pre-school Manager

Frock Swap and Cocktail Evening!!

Following the success of this event last year, we have scheduled a date for a New Year Frock Swap evening. On **Friday 6th May at 8pm**, come along with an item of clothing/a handbag/shoes, accessories...anything that you no longer want/no longer fit into or just have no space for! and see if you can swap it for something to revitalise your wardrobe!

RAG BAG COLLECTION

We are participating in the Rag Bag recycling scheme which will provide regular fundraising for our Pre-school and raises awareness about recycling. Your child will bring home a black sack to fill up! Please bring unwanted clothing, bags, belts, curtains, paired shoes (tied together), hats, towels, bed linen in the securely tied bag by **9am on Thursday 5th May**. The bags will be collected on this date for recycling.

Easter Treasure Hunt

You will be aware your child / children has been given an activity sheet of items to find over the Easter holidays! A gift aid and sponsor form has been attached. We hope you have lots of fun finding these items together!

Please can you ensure you bring them back in after the holidays as we would like to display your child's activity sheet and discuss the items they have found.

Waitrose Green Tokens

Good news! - We entered Hillside Pre-school for the Community project work, which is a scheme run by Waitrose in Rickmansworth.

We put in a request for them to help fund our 'garden equipment' and they chose us as a service in the community worth supporting.

Please spread the word to family, friends, and neighbours to shop in the Rickmansworth branch of Waitrose for the month of **APRIL**. When they receive their green disc at the cash-out, please place it in the Hillside slot - we will earn a percentage of all the green discs that are posted. We have already funded some of the equipment from the Quiz night, but we would still like a large blackboard to put on the fence and some play-mats!

Admissions for September 2011

The deadline for parents to accept a place at nursery is Friday 13th May. It is very important you let us know where your child is going to be in September especially if you wish your child to remain at Hillside.

For those children staying at Hillside in September if you wish to change your days or increase the number of sessions you have to let us know by **Friday 13th May**.

Hillside book bags and t-shirts

We now have fantastic book bags for your children to put their pieces of art and craft in! They are available at **£4.50 each**. You will find them sturdy and practical especially when you require an extra pair of hands at pick up time!!

We have lovely t-shirts and sweatshirts in a variety of colours for you to purchase. It would be lovely to see the children wearing their Hillside t-shirts in the Summer term!

Tables and Chairs for Hire

Having your child's birthday party at home? Hire tables and chairs from Hillside. It costs £5 for a table with 4 chairs and all proceeds go directly to funds for our children. See Isaline in the office or a member of the staff team to book

EASY FUNDRAISERS

Here is a reminder of the 'easy fundraisers' available at Hillside at no extra cost to you..

Shopping and fundraising in one!

Do you shop online at **Tesco, Asda, John Lewis, Boots, M&S, Next, Boden, Argos, ELC, Amazon** etc., or do you renew your car insurance online?

Using www.easyfundraising.org.uk as a 'gateway' for all your online shopping is a brilliantly easy way to raise money for Hillside Pre-School. It costs you nothing and easyfundraising will give a small percentage of the total cost of your purchase directly to Hillside.

All you have to do is log onto www.easyfundraising.org.uk and register, selecting Hillside Pre-School as your charity (takes less than a minute). Then, every time you shop online, log into easyfundraising first and access your chosen online store through their list, which will take you straight into the shop's own site. There are over 600 retailers listed so give it a try!

Yellow Moon

This site offers educational and fun products offering 25% cashback to school groups and charities. Hillside are registered to receive the cashback on any purchases made via this site so visit www.yellowmoon.org.uk or pick up a catalogue from preschool.