



Hopscotch Newsletter July 2009

Dear Parents,

Nizells Avenue Nursery

Very many congratulations to Vanessa Laing of our Nizells Avenue nursery who received an “**Outstanding in all areas**” judgement following an unannounced Ofsted inspection on 1st June, the highest grade possible. This places Nizells Avenue in the top 3.7% of full day care nurseries in England (statistics from Ofsted publication Quality of Childcare Provision Aug 08).

Vanessa, Natasha and the staff team have worked extremely hard to achieve this award, and their high quality love, care and attention for the children was recognised by the inspector who stated “the staff work extremely well to foster positive relationships with children and ensure they are valued as unique individuals, promoting inclusion” and “children flourish within the setting, where they are extremely happy and settled. They play in a lovely bright and stimulating environment that is very child orientated”.

All the staff will enjoy a well-deserved evening out to celebrate this significant achievement. Well done everyone at Nizells Avenue.

Leaving Dates

Due to recent changes in Ofsted registration and our inclusion on the Early Years Register, it is now possible for children to attend our nurseries from aged birth to 31st August after their 5th birthday. This means that we can provide part-time and/or holiday care for school children until this date. If you are interested, please discuss this with your manager,

School Leavers

Goodbye and best wishes to all our children who are leaving us this summer to go to big school. We hope you all have a great time at your school leavers' parties and enjoy the special treats planned for you. Enjoy your new classes and teachers, and please come back to let us know how you've been getting on. Parents, please ensure when you leave the nursery, you collect all your child's belongings and artwork as we cannot store them or be responsible for any items left at the nursery after you've gone.

If you usually make payments using *employer childcare vouchers*, please be aware that you may need to give notice to your voucher company in order to cancel your payments to us. We are unable to credit you with any over payment of vouchers due to the Tax and NI implications.

Your deposit will be credited against your penultimate and/or last invoice and will not be refunded by any other method. We therefore ask you to take this into consideration, especially if you usually pay using employer childcare vouchers. If you wish us to calculate your final invoices in advance, please contact us at Head Office on 01273 385577.

Holidays

If you are going to be away on holiday in July or August, please make sure your nursery fees are paid on time, to avoid any late payment charges.

Bavant Road Summer Picnic

The Bavant Road nursery are holding a Summer Picnic at the nursery on Saturday 4th July between 11.00am and 2.00pm. All are welcome and please bring a picnic. There will be a bouncy castle, face painting, raffles, tombola and much more. All proceed to this year's charity "Action for Children".

Kids Club Seaford

Our popular Kids Club at Seaford for children between 5 and 8 years is available during the holidays. Please call **01323 492123** if you would like to book any sessions.

Change of Booking

If any parents are going to require a change of sessions or booking for the rest of this year, then please discuss this with your manager as soon as possible.

Credit Card Payments

Regretfully, due to increased bank charges, the charge for credit card payments will rise to 1.8% with effect from 1st August 2009.

Bank Holiday Closure

The nurseries will be closed on Monday 31st August 2009 - no fees are due for this day.

Early Years Educational Entitlement – Autumn Term 2009

Children must become 3 years old by 31st August 2009 to be eligible. The 14 week Autumn Term for EYEE begins on 7th September and ends on 11th December 2009 in Brighton, Hove and Peacehaven.

In Seaford the term begins on 7th September and ends on 18th December 2009 with no funding during half term 26th – 30th October.

The headcount days are 10th and 17th September. Please complete and return your Parents Declaration Form (available at the nursery by the end of August) by the due date and ensure you have provided evidence of your child's date of birth, as we cannot make a claim without these documents.