

# MARCH 2008 NEWSLETTER

## Parents Open Evening

We will be holding an Open Evening at the nursery from 5:30 to 8pm on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

You will get an opportunity to meet your children's carers, discuss your children's progress and view their work away from the rush of drop off and pick ups!

Vashti will be talking to parents about the new Framework, the Early Years Foundation Stage, which becomes statutory requirement for all nurseries in September 2008.

Please also take the opportunity to talk to Vashti about her post graduate studies and Early Years Professional Status.

## New Fees and Invoices

We are using a new system for invoicing which will improve accuracy and payment tracking. Please remember that fees are payable in advance for the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. The new fees are displayed on the notice board and come into effect in two months time. If you have any queries or comments do not hesitate to speak to Alison.

## Nursery Safety and Hygiene

- Please use the hand sanitizer in the entrance hall
- Please close the back door when dropping off buggies

## Feedback on Parent Questionnaires

Thank you to all the parents who replied to our questionnaire, many of you requested a parents evening which has now been booked for Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April, between 5.30 and 8pm. We will put up time sheets in each unit for you to pick a suitable time to meet with your child's key person. Vashti will also be available to discuss the EYFS Framework.

Some parents asked for information to be made available about their child's day, this information has always been available, if you do not know where to find it please speak to your unit supervisors.

Many parents brought up their involvement in the setting in the past year and we would like take this opportunity to thank you all. We are in the process of establishing a Friends of Sunshine Association for future activities.

## Parent Planners

We are really pleased by your response to our parent planning sheets, thank you for your hard work! We are finding it really enriching to have the chance to base some of the children's activities at nursery around experiences they have had at home.

We are going to slightly simplify the sheet for next time we send it out to you, we would welcome information on specific activities or experiences that your child has with you, and ideas for activities you would like us to do that directly relate to this. If you need any assistance regarding these sheets please speak to your child's key person.

## Early Years Foundation Stage - Sustained Shared Thinking

Following introduction of the new EYFS Framework we have decided to focus on certain areas of our practice. Sustained Shared Thinking is part of the Learning and Development theme of the EYFS and considers how we interact with, and support the children in their play and learning.

This means getting involved in their thinking processes with them, for example in group discussions, in role play, sharing stories together and exploring experiences with them such as planting seeds or talking about the seasons and the weather.

We aim, as practitioners to:

- Value what parents tell us about how their children behave and learn at home.
- Allow children access to their own equipment to extend their own play and learning.
- To ensure that we provide a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities.
- Model to the children how we are creative in play, for example playing alongside them in their role-play.

## The Childrens Parade 2008

We are holding our first **Parade Evening** on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March from 6 to 8pm. Please come along and meet our visiting artist Nicky Gunson, and build some snakes and ladders!

We will be holding a number of these evenings leading upto the Parade on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May!

