



NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back after a very quick summer. We would like to welcome Elijah, Florence, Dorothy, Bonnie, Charlie and Idris.

The summer holiday club was a great success with 53 children using it for 12 days over 4 weeks. All of the teachers took their turn to work, and we had support from Emma; Alice, who did a drama and singing workshop and George who helped us to build some amazing structures as well as playing football all day. We also had 2 visits from Leicester City in the Community who did both Football and a Lego challenge. We will be doing the same next year and will be sending the dates out very soon. We will also be open on the 19th to 21st of December. Monday the 19th is in lieu of Bank Holiday Monday so will be funded and we will be open 8am to 6pm with ASC. The Tuesday and Wednesday will be Holiday Club so we will be open from 8am to 4pm at the cost of £5.15 per hour unless you have banked funding. School children are welcome too. Please email your requirements.

The pre-school children will be taking part in school readiness activities each Monday afternoon initially and later we will add another morning or afternoon. These sessions include Phonics, Musical Movement and P.E. We continue to learn through play all day, covering all 7 areas of learning.

We are using books as a starting point each week but will continue to build on individual children's interests too.

As our first book was *The Journey Home from Grandpa's House* it would be lovely if you could send us a picture of Grandpas and Grandmas and let us have an idea of any significant objects of reference on the journey to their homes.

We hope to continue with our forest school sessions this year so please send your children with appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather each day, they will need it for Playgroup too as we go out in all weathers.

We will be holding a parents' meeting on Tuesday 4th October at 7:30pm. This is a short presentation about how the playgroup runs and how your children are learning. You will also get to meet the teachers and some of the committee members. You can even have a play! It is a fun and informal evening but very beneficial to your child as research shows children with parents who are involved in their learning achieve at a higher level than children whose parents don't.

2023 is our 50th year so we will be holding lots of exciting events throughout academic year.

Our first event is our Autumn Activity morning which is on Saturday 5th November from 11am to 1pm. The children get to make a number of crafts and there is a tombola, raffle, cakes and refreshments and plated lunches. Flyers to follow soon.

Belton Village Hall,
School Lane,
Belton,
Leicestershire
LE12 9TU

Leader: Sam Dexter

07761836983

Our Bags2School collection is on Monday 14th November - they will take clothing, shoes, bags, bedding (not quilts or pillows). All items can be brought before 9am on the day and can be in any bin liner. We are paid according to weight of the items but mainly it's a great opportunity for a clear out before Christmas.

Our Christmas Quiz is on Tuesday 6th December at 7.30pm - this is an adults' only event and all friends and family members are welcome. Flyers to follow.

As users of the village hall, we have to host 6 Whist Drives each year. There is a group of people who play Whist (a card game) every Friday night and as a group we send 2 people to make refreshments. We have to provide 7 prizes, but we are able to keep any profit after the village hall rent has been paid. We usually make between £40 and £60.

Our first Whist Drive is Friday 16th September so we would be grateful of donations of wine, sherry, chocolates, nice biscuits, or a monetary donation for us to buy the prizes.

If your child attended the Summer Holiday Club, please complete the survey which was emailed out.

Although our fees usually increase in September and even though we have had a minimum wage rise we have tried to help our families by delaying the increase to 1st January. So, from that date the Childcare cost for unfunded hours will be £5.50 per hour and the charitable contribution for funded children will be £1.50 per hour.

Sam, Becky, Vanessa, Jo, Kelly, Amanda, Megan and Leah

Dates for your Diary:

- Friday 16th September - Playgroup host Whist
- Tuesday 4th October - Parents' meeting 7.30pm
- Monday 17th to Friday 21st October - Half Term
- Saturday 5th November - Autumn Activity Morning 11am to 1pm
- Monday 14th November - Bags2School Collection
- Tuesday 6th December - Christmas Quiz 7.30pm
- Monday 19th December - Last Day of term
- Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st December - Holiday Club.
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