

# ASHRIDGE NEWS



From your Committee - February 2012

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February - Coffee Morning

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March - Committee Meeting

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March - NCT Sale

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March - Social Night at Ashridge

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March - Task Force

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Sport Relief 2012

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March - Family Picnic

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March - End of Term

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April - Summer Term begins

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May - AGM

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May - Spring Fayre

## CHAIR CHAT

Spring is very nearly sprung and the academic year is flying by. Firstly thank you to all our parents who are supporting the nursery at Task Force evenings. Our members of staff are very appreciative of the time this saves them doing these tasks and would like to pass on their thanks. The next date is 19<sup>th</sup> March.

As you are aware, the committee have been working on the nursery's offer of sessions to our parents and the flexibility of these. Thank you all for your support and patience with the first phase of the changes. The staff and committee appreciate your understanding and support during the introduction of our new offer. My personal thanks to Mrs Gunter for the amazing juggling act of session places ensuring, *wherever possible*, we can accommodate parent's wishes. The hard work has paid off as we are entitled to the additional funding from the council. Any feedback on the introduction would be appreciated. [anne.tovey@talktalk.net](mailto:anne.tovey@talktalk.net)

The subcommittee for the fayre have started the preparations for the big day in May; all support for the fayre is very welcome and please let Clare or Julie know if you can offer any help. The fayre is a fantastic day for all of the family, book the date now!

Finally, the spring term is especially busy for the committee as we have our financial year-end soon and the planning for a new committee to think about for the summer term. With this in mind, we are having an open meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March, but please approach us at any time to find out more.

Kind regards,

Anne Tovey, Chairman

## COFFEE TIME!

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February - 8.45am and 12.30pm

Please join us for tea or coffee after drop-off at 8.45am and 12.30pm. Everyone welcome! Have a chat with a



member of staff, the committee and other parents and carers about anything you'd like to know. We look forward to seeing you.

## NCT SALE

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March at St Crispin's School

Ashridge Nursery will once again be selling items at the NCT sale. If you have any good quality items to donate, please bring them along to the nursery. We are grateful for all donations, and anything that can't be used for the NCT sale will be saved for the Spring Fayre, the happy bags or sold on eBay - all of which help the fundraising totals!

## COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March - 8pm in the nursery

The next committee meeting will be an open meeting and all parents are welcome to attend. The agenda will be posted in the foyer of the nursery; AOBs are welcome on the night too!

The nursery's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in the summer term where parents must vote and elect a new committee. Currently most of the committee are stepping down, so if you are interested in maintaining and supporting your nursery by volunteering to run the charity then please come along and see how it all works.

## TASK FORCE

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Please come and join us to help the staff get through those little extra tasks that need doing. Scissors start snipping from 7.30pm. Many hands make light work! Please contact

Michele (Emma's mum) if you can help:

[micheleharrison7@gmail.com](mailto:micheleharrison7@gmail.com)



## DID YOU KNOW...?

Citroemach Garage (off Molly Millar's Lane) is a Friend to Ashridge and offers discount on servicing and MOTs, etc. to parents who have children at the nursery - and they do all cars, not just Citroens! <http://citroemach.co.uk> or find them on Facebook.

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## ASHRIDGE NURSERY SPRING FAYRE

Our annual Spring Fayre has been set for **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May** this year. There will be a separate newsletter a little nearer the time, packed with more information. But for now, please mark the date in your diary, hunt out any unwanted good quality bric-a-brac - and start saving jam jars!

## SCHOOL APPLICATION PLACES

If you applied in January for a place at primary school for this September, you will receive a letter from Wokingham Borough Council on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April** notifying you of where your child has been placed (if you applied online, you will either receive an email or you can log on to the website to see the decision).

You will then have only 2 weeks (until **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May**) to accept or reject the offer; decide when you want your child to start, and if it will be part-time or full-time; or lodge an appeal.

*Please talk to your child's keyworker for support and advice on starting school and the choices available - appointments will be available soon.*

## DO YOU EVER FEEL YOUR CHILDREN KNOW MORE ABOUT ONLINE TECHNOLOGIES THAN YOU?

You're not alone... The internet and online technologies are an important part of children's lives at home and school, providing great opportunities for learning, communicating, playing and creating. However, they can sometimes be a bit overwhelming and present challenges to keeping your family safe online.

On Tuesday 7th February, the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre - the UK's national centre dedicated to protecting children from harm both online and offline - launched the "**Parents' and Carers' Guide to the Internet**", looking at what it's like to bring up children in the online world. You can watch this programme online to help you stay up-to-date with the technology your children are using, know what action to take and where to seek further help and support.

Visit [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) and please help spread the word in your local schools, communities and amongst friends and family.



We can now accept direct donations through **Virgin Money Giving**. Please follow the link on our website: [www.ashridgenursery.co.uk](http://www.ashridgenursery.co.uk)



If you get the **Wokingham Times**, please don't forget to cut out the coupon on page 6 and bring it in to the nursery. Fingers crossed we'll win that £200!



If you are a UK Taxpayer and wish to give directly to the nursery, please complete your **Gift Aid form**. If you have mislaid it, please contact Sam Gunter: [ashridgenursery@btinternet.com](mailto:ashridgenursery@btinternet.com) for a replacement.

Finally, if you shop online, please register with **The Giving Machine** and nominate Ashridge as your beneficiary. It won't cost you a penny and it is such an easy way to raise funds for the nursery: [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk)



HAVING FUN  
IN THE SNOW!

