



7th October 2008

Dear parent/carer,

If your child becomes distressed whilst in our care, please be assured that every effort will be made to comfort them until you return. We want your child to be happy and safe during their time in pre-school and welcome parental support. We recommend you leave your child in our care as soon as possible after arrival and a member of staff will contact you if your child remains unsettled. As you can appreciate, too many adults present in the pre school room is unsettling for the children and can add to their distress making it almost impossible for the staff to settle them. We can assure you that most children are settled and happily participating in pre school activities within 10 minutes, although the initial parting from their carer can be traumatic and noisy in such an enclosed environment.

If a member of staff is not able to assist you with your child, please wait for someone to become available. It may be useful to bring in some favourite toys/books/photographs from home to comfort your child whilst adjusting to their new surroundings.

Home/Pre school Diaries

Each child has been given a diary where parents and pre school are able to communicate information regarding your child. Please use these diaries often, as they are an important link between us in working together supporting your child's development. We will be asking for all of the diaries to be returned at the end of each term, enabling us to photocopy any relevant information for your child's Profile.

Please send your books in NOW so we can copy them over half term.



Child Profiles

If you have not already completed and returned your 'Child Profile' front page, please do so immediately. Again, these will be used to compile information about your child, eventually following them into their new Primary School. As the emphasis is now on working *together* to help your child develop, we would appreciate a few minutes of your time every term in filling in the occasionally document for their profile.

Clothes

Please remember to clearly NAME all items of clothing/shoes/lunchboxes in the event that several items may be identical. You can leave named wellies if you prefer for outside play, but we cannot guarantee that your child will want to wear them and we cannot enforce it! Please dress your child appropriately for messy outside play, in things you may not mind getting dirty as they very often get paint, glue, mud, ect on themselves.

Departure

When collecting your child, please do not call them through the fence or the window. Many are distressed and become anxious when they see their parent and are not able to go home immediately. The adult at the entrance will call your child's name when they recognise the carer, ensuring they are safe. If your child attempts to leave, please help us by encouraging your child to return inside, or there may be an occasion when they leave and you are not waiting.

Library Visit

We hope to take the children to the library on either a Thursday or Friday. If you are available to support the staff on either of those days, please let us know.

Theatre Trip at The Ridings High School, Winterbourne.

We are able to obtain tickets to see "Sinbad" at the Ridings High School on Thursday 20th November at 10am. The performance is suitable for the over 2's, so siblings are welcome. You will need to supervise your own child and enclose the



correct money with the slip below. Adults are £3 and Children are £4. Pre-school will remain open as normal for the children who cannot attend.

Primary School applications

If your child is due to start Primary School in September 2009, please complete and return your application form BEFORE 24th October 2008 to South Glos.

Bbq on Saturday 13th September

Many thanks to all the parents and children who attended our welcome barbeque. We appreciated all the positive comments and hope to have more social occasions in the future. If anyone would like to help co-ordinate the next event or fundraise for Abacus please let us know.

Harvest

We will be collecting dried or tinned food to donate to the Bristol Homeless Project. Please bring in any contributions BEFORE Wednesday 22nd October 2008.

Yours sincerely

N. Pontin J. Baggott N. Long



Library Visit

Thursday or Friday
I can / cannot help supervise.

Signed.....

"Sinbad" show for the over 2's at the Ridings High School, Winterbourne.

Thursday 20th November - 10am

I will be taking my childto see "Sinbad" and enclose the correct money - cash only as this is not an Abacus event.

Signed.....