



# Crossbow Pre-School

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## Newsletter

October 2011

*A new term, a new newsletter... May I take this opportunity to introduce myself as Communications Officer. I thank the committee for trusting me with this role. I ask you as parents to please tell me what you do and don't like to read about. You can contact me at [crossbowpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:crossbowpreschool@gmail.com). Enjoy this issue, Aímée Knott*

### **MUST READ**

In joining the pre-school committee I have been impressed by how much personal time staff, committee members and parents are putting in. I have also solved the riddle of how child care is provided free at the point of use. Fees collected through the voucher scheme simply do not provide enough money to pay for the staff and running expenses. At present there is a £3000 to £4000 shortfall every year! As a charity, Crossbow has had to fundraise to meet the shortfall. Currently this is done through events, without which the pre-school would close. We urge parents to support events or suggest alternatives.

### **Dates for the diary**

*Friday 21st October 19.30*

Auction Night:

At the Globe pub. Adult social night. Tickets £10 each, including a delicious buffet. This is set to be a fantastic fun-filled night. All money raised from the sale of items goes towards pre-school for all of our children to benefit.

*Friday 28th October 18.30*

Family Halloween disco:

Fancy dress children only, at Crossbow House. This is a great family social night and last year was a huge success; the children had a fantastic time. The bar is open for the adults and we will be selling squash, sweets and filled rolls.

*Saturday 3rd December 10.00 to 13.00*

Christmas Bazaar:

St Peters Hall 10am to 1pm more details to follow.

**Please please buy your tickets and invite friends and family as well.**

**We welcome all to these events, NOT just Crossbow Families.**

## Early Years Foundation Stage

"Schools and early year's providers have to follow a structure of learning, development and care for children from birth to five years old. This is called the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and it enables your child to learn through a range of activities". Please ask a member of staff for more information:

**Cathy Avery**

Leader/Manager

**Tracey Pratten**

Deputy Leader

**Jo McCue**

Pre-school Clerk

**Nicola Addicott**

Practitioner

**Trudi Brown**

Practitioner

**Nikki Salmon**

Practitioner

## Ways you can help

You can help Crossbow Pre-school to be awarded £6,000, towards further renovation of St Peter's Hall, by voting for our project in the Nat West Community Force Awards at <http://communityforce.natwest.com>

## Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a "Pre-School Practitioner, 1 to 1 with child with autism". The hours are 9.00 to 12.30 three consecutive mornings a week. It's a seven month contract from January. £7.00 to £7.30 per hour dependent on qualifications and experience with children with autism. (Makaton and Pecs experience desirable).

## New children

We are pleased to welcome back last years Crossbow children and extend a warm welcome to all the new children and parents that have joined and are due to start soon. Luca Holway has also joined following in the footsteps of his brothers Ethan and Oakley. Luca is autistic and we are pleased to be able to welcome him, as Crossbow is an 'inclusive Preschool'.

## *And finally...* Reception at St Peter's Hall



On Thursday 29 September a reception was held by Pre-school to thank individuals, companies and groups who so generously helped with the refurbishment project. We were really pleased that Steve Webb MP could attend to cut the cake, cut the ribbon officially opening the new area and unveil a board, which listed those who had generously donated towards the project.

Themed as a 'drop in' reception some 150 people, not including the pre-school children and their siblings, joined us for drinks and nibbles during the afternoon and evening. It was wonderful that so many people were interested in seeing the finished project and were enjoying themselves.