

Newsletter June 2017

The Haven 2000 Nursery and Preschool



78 Clapham Rd. Bedford. MK41 6BB. 01234 333366. maria@haven2000.com vivien@haven2000.com

Website : We hope that our new website will be operational by September. It will include information about funding and costs. Much has changed in this area and information we can use to develop policy has been dependent upon the Local Authority's response to Government directives. During a General Election the Local Authority is not allowed to market information which would be deemed as promotional in favour of one party. Consequently there has been much delay ! We have draft copies of our Funding and Childcare Costs page for you. Vivien has been in dialogue with many families since April and this has helped us develop a fair and workable model for The Haven. Please talk to Viv about how the changes to funding will affect you.

Dates and Events ; Sports Day 19th July (Revised Date) 10 to 11 am and 2.00 to 3.00pm. Please come to either the morning or afternoon event. Every room will demonstrate their sporting skills one after the other, starting with the Babies ! The car park will not accommodate everyone so please assume that you will park on the road. ***Please sign in Reception.***

Tempest Photos Morning on Tuesday 27th June 9 a.m All children who attend on that morning will have their photo taken. School leavers will also have a photo wearing Graduation attire. Individual Children who do not attend on that day can **book in separately from 11.30 to 1.30. *Please sign in Reception***

Visit by the Mayor of Bedford 12th July 10.30 to 11.30. Thanks to Tammy's excellent work , The Haven has achieved the Healthy Smiles Award. The Oral Health Promotion Team of Bedford Borough Community Dental Service have chosen to showcase the Haven's dental hygiene practice and education, to the Mayor of Bedford. He will visit the children to talk about their work on 12th July. We expect a photo to be published in the Times and Citizen after the visit. Could you get a message to Maria if you do not want your child to appear in this photo. The Lead Dental Nurse from the Team whom many of you met when you brought your child to have Flouride Varnish treatment, will also visit on **3rd July** to assess teeth brushing technique. To avoid cross infection through applying the same toothpaste tube to each child's brush, we put pea sized blobs of toothpaste on a plate and assist the children in scooping their own paste off the plate. To ensure the fluoride is absorbed into the enamel, children don't rinse but spit excess saliva into a wipe.

Saturday 15th July 11am to 1pm Family Fun Day. Haven Families get together for activities, cakes and drinks all free ! Activities will include, goal shooting, face painting, ball pit, bouncy castle, trampoline.....and presentation of Graduation certificates to School leavers at 12.30. Any donations will go directly to the Felicity fund. Viv has raised in excess of £16,000 for Bedford Neonatal Unit since starting the charity.

Newsletter June 2017

Weeks beginning 3rd and 10th of July are Road Safety Weeks. Preschools and Tip Toppers will be learning how to keep safe near roads. Peter of the Bedford Borough Highways Agency will dress as a Lollipop Man and visit twice, to give road safety talks to the children. We are providing Road Safety resources for role play and using educational material from the THINK and BRAKE charities. In addition, planning for those two weeks will be centred on safety, stories, writing, phonics, shape and number. Maria will be writing to Parents/Carers to seek permission to take small groups of *Preschool* children across the Crossing outside the Haven. A full risk assessment will be available. Please talk to Maria if you would like your *Tip Topper* child to be involved in the road crossing.

4th July 10a.m. Head of Children's Fiction at W.H.Smith, Bedford will do story time with the Tweenies. Tip Toppers and then Preschool using a book Smith's have donated to us. Our choice was "Zog and the Flying Doctors" by Julia Donaldson and Axel Schaffler. Our day will be dedicated to art and craft activities and photos. WhSmith will display the art work and photos in the store. Maria will write to you to request permission for your child's work and/or name and/or photo to be displayed. It is entirely optional.

Gruffalo Week 31st July, 1st and 2nd August, We will be dedicating our areas of teaching to the Gruffalo theme on these days. The highlights will be; a visit from Zoolab who will tell a version of the story using a rat, snake, tarantula, a giant snail and millipede, Gruffalo tea using food made by each Room and an interactive enactment of the story by the children themselves !

Childcare Vouchers. Your employer may be able to help you with childcare costs using childcare vouchers. Go to <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/childcare-vouchers>

Tax Free Childcare. Tax-Free Childcare and 30 hours free childcare are two separate government schemes, to help parents with the cost of childcare. To qualify for either scheme, parents must be working and each earning at least £120 a week (on average) and not more than £100,000 each a year. Go to <https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/>

Tax Credits. This is a Government Scheme to help with child care costs.

Go to <https://www.gov.uk/topic/benefits-credits/tax-credits>

Although education is free, food and services are not free. From September 2017 all funded sessions are subject to charges for meals and snacks, nappies, wipes and nappy cream. Contact us for costs.

Newsletter June 2017

-
Funding for 2 Year Old Children. Your child may be entitled to 15 hours free childcare the term after his/her second birthday during term time. The Haven offers the option of paying for the same sessions at the current session cost during school holidays. To check eligibility for funding go to www.bedford.gov.uk/2yearfunding

Funding for 3 and 4 year old children. From the beginning of the term after their third birthday **all** 3 year old children are eligible to receive 15 hours of free education during term time. This continues when they become 4 years old. The Haven offers the option of paying for the same sessions at the current session cost during school holidays.

Funding for 30 hours. The Haven offers 30 hours funded childcare stretched over 49 weeks of the year. This is not a term time only option. This is offered as 5 sessions of 5 hours duration each. (Both Morning and Afternoon sessions are 5 hours in duration.) Full take up of the offer is 25 hours per week. The Funded hours equate to 23.2 hours per week. We charge for the remaining 1.8 hours per week. In addition we charge for daily meals and snacks and nappy sundries (if applicable.) Fees are payable monthly by standing order. Parents and Carers can apply for tax credits to support all childcare costs. Please be aware that this is how the 30 hours is offered at the Haven. Other settings may offer the funded hours differently. It is entirely parental choice whether you access the 30 hours

To check eligibility go to <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) Some children who are receiving the 3 & 4 year old free 15 hour educational entitlement could be eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium. This means that The Haven could get up to £300 each year to support your child's learning. Go to <https://www.myearlylearning.co.uk>

For further information go to

http://www.bedford.gov.uk/education_and_learning/family_information_service/childcare_choices.aspx