

The Mews News – Keeping Parents up to date!

Newsletter Date
October 2005



Spidey & Batman at the Mews Funday 2005

Book now for the After School Clubs and Holiday Clubs!

Ask Kim at Green Park or Momoko at Carfax.

Diary Dates

- ◆ **Mews AGM**
Monday 3rd October
7pm in the Carfax Conference Room
- ◆ **Term 1**
Thurs 1st Sept 05 to
Fri 21st October 05
- ◆ **Holiday Club**
October Half-Term
24th Oct to 1st Nov 05
- ◆ **Term 2**
Wed 2nd Nov 05 to
Tues 20th Dec 05
- ◆ **Holiday Club**
Xmas Holiday Club
21st Dec 05 to
3rd Jan 06
- ◆ **Term 3**
Wed 4th Jan 06 to
Fri 10th Feb 06

After School Clubs expanding capacity

The Mews After School Clubs continue to be available to the parents whose children attend *Bathwick St Marys, Widcombe, St. Johns RC* and *St. Stephens* (subject to demand). In fact we have increased our service to offer a further 24 places at *Green Park Salvation Army*.

We are currently looking at ways of organising pick ups from otherff nearby schools now that we can offer a further 10 additional places. Our aim is to build up the programme at a steady pace conducive to allow for each child to feel welcome and valued.

We have Bath and North East Somerset funding to help with this and the new venture has already been OFSTED inspected after running for its first term.

Outdoor Play a success

The Nursery's new designer planned play area, opened this summer by Bath rugby star *Mike Catt*, has proved to be very popular with all the Children.



Holiday Clubs filling up!

During the October half-term the Holiday Club will be having a *picnic & play* in *Victoria Park* and have planned 2 games of bowling at the *Bowplex, Bristol*. Momoko is also planning a great many festive activities during the Christmas Holiday club - see the Diary on the left for dates, and remember to book up soon if you haven't already.

Get involved - AGM Monday 3rd October

The Mews Committee is your opportunity to influence the way things are run in the Mews.

There are a number of positions still vacant, and parents are welcome to come along this Monday. Nominations are invited for all posts (as per the parent notice board) and can be accepted from the floor.

Parent involvement has always been strong and of great value in making sure the quality of service is maintained.

We are a friendly lot and you don't need to bring a great deal of experience of committees with you - just show up with ideas and a willingness to invest a little time in securing the best start for your child and for the other children.

The meeting is held in the Carfax Hotel Conference room at 7.00pm. All are Welcome, just come along!

Welcome to New Staff

Thank you all for being so patient and understanding during our recent staff changes. We realise that staff changes can be unsettling for children and try to keep them to a minimum. A big Mews welcome to Jess and Jo! Yes another Jo, I don't want to hear any sighs. Our Jo count is now 4 in the Mews and 1 in Carfax! Hello also to Karen Miller who has started as a Play Worker in Green Park too. Photo's of her to follow!



Jess Gwinnell
Nursery Nurse



Jo Watson
Nursery Nurse

Over 15 years of excellent childcare provision in Bath!



Pre-School's excursion to Bath's Parade Gardens

"Get the most out of your child's time at the Mews by getting involved in the Management Committee."

Pre-School takes Bath!

A calm, quiet and happy start to the new Pre-School year!

Our topic for the first half-term is 'Bath' and covers parks, rivers and canals, architecture, the Romans and 'our favourite places'. We have dressed up in togas, cooked a Roman recipe and visited the *Bath Abbey*.

We will be making our own Bath brochure, including photographs and pictures to conclude this topic.

Continuity of Care

It continues to be our policy to offer continuity of care, as this is what parents tell us they want.

It is desirable to be able to offer a place in the nursery for a child to progress to preschool and to be prepared for the big adventure of starting at a nearby local school. Then, when taking the big step into the different world of school, children see familiar faces and friends they know from *the After School Clubs* and *Holiday Clubs*.

Christmas Fair

It's not too soon to offer your ideas and help for this annual event- just contact any member of staff. Before we decide on dates we need to know what the schools are doing so that there are no clashes resulting in your child missing out!

If it is your sort of thing, we would gladly let you spearhead the entire event.

Not Paid up to date?

-----Take 5!-----

That is, 5 days to pay all outstanding debts. Sylvia says those parents who regularly forget to pay on time and ignore letters from the administrator or even worse, bet on the fact we don't want to ask you to remove your child, are seriously undermining our cash flow and testing our good nature.



A reminder - the Mews is a 'not for profit' service but we have to pay our staff, and replace toys and equipment. Everyone has agreed to pay one month in

advance; invoices are issued at the beginning of the month (unless the administrator is tied up writing letters to or telephoning the illusive non-payers!) please pay within five days of receipt. Our nursery and play club staff make an excellent job of caring for *all* children, it is incumbent on *all* parents to play fair and pay up. Thank you to the many that do pay on time.

Direct Debit Payment

We appreciate that it is a difficulty that we don't offer to set up direct debits, as most people are used to automatic payment through their bank.

We use the Salvation Army's own bank; The Reliance Bank, and are currently in talks with them with a view to working out how this can be done through their systems.

Contact the Mews

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