



# Winter 2014 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you enjoyed your festive break—I did!

In case we missed the opportunity to personally thank you for your kind words, presents and cards—Thank you! Your support is greatly appreciated by myself and the staff.

Congratulations to Emma Mellish who successfully completed Level 3 Child Care Diploma. We're also excited to share that Nabeela Jabeen completed Level 2 Child Care Diploma and is already working toward Level 3. Well done!

Continuing education courses for our staff are a part of our commitment to providing high quality childcare with excellence. Specialised training gives us expertise in areas such as speech and language development and learning through music, which enable us to enrich your child's experience at Splash and Dash.

Here's a warm welcome to a fun-packed winter term! Please read on, we have lots to look forward to!

## Fatima and the Splash and Dash Team



Fatima Rafiq  
Pre-school manager



Anita Misiewicz  
Deputy manager



Angeles Perez  
Senior practitioner



Emma Mellish  
Pre-school practitioner



Nabeela Jabeen  
Pre-school practitioner



Tracy Malham  
Pre-school practitioner

# Parents:

Did you realise that as an OFSTED-registered and registered charity Splash and Dash is required to be run entirely by a volunteer parent committee? Without this committee the school would shutdown. Right now it is run by parents whose children are no longer at Splash and Dash. Why? Because these kind people are willing to stay on until a replacement is found.

At this moment, we desperately need a Banker and Fundraiser. Both of these women are heavily pregnant. The Chair, the Vice Chair and Treasurer will be stepping down in July, but need to arrange handover soon. Please talk to Fatima or email [splashanddash@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:splashanddash@hotmail.co.uk) to help.

## Consider one of these roles:

### Chairperson

The Chair is the key point of contact with OFSTED and other relevant childcare organisations. You will work closely with Fatima, the staff, and the committee on the policies and strategy for running the pre-school.

### Vice Chair

The Vice Chair supports and helps Fatima to recruit and support the fabulous team of staff and volunteers.

### Treasurer

Are you good with finances? The Treasurer manages the pre-schools finances—everything from making sure the staff are paid (very important!) to preparing simple annual accounts.

### Banker

Perfect for you if your time is limited. All you need to do is collect fees left at Splash and Dash, compare the money you collect against a spreadsheet and put it in the bank. Easy.

### Fundraiser

Are you fun, sociable and creative? Enjoy organising parties? Then, this is the role for you. We need someone to plan and deliver fundraising events. This role can be shared among a number of people, including one-off fundraisers.

## LEARNING THEMES:

Put aside some time at home to reinforce what your child is learning at pre-school.

### JANUARY-FEBRUARY

Handa's Surprise  
Winter  
Chinese New Year  
Valentine's Day

### FEBRUARY-APRIL

3 Little Pigs  
Spring  
Mother's Day

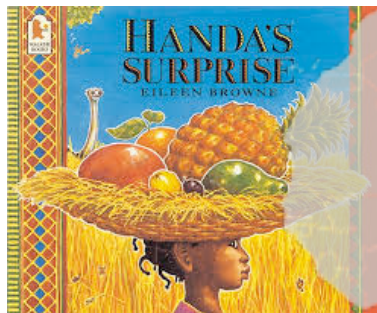
### APRIL-MAY

The Very Hungry Caterpillar  
My Body  
Father's Day

### MAY-JULY

Goldilocks and the Three Bears  
Summer

\*Subject to additions and changes



## HANDA'S SURPRISE

We've been reading Handa's Surprise, a book about a Kenyan girl who visits her friend with a basket full of fruit as a present. This book is a great way to introduce Africa to the children. Take some time to pull out a map with your child at home and take a look together.

## MASTER CHEF

Your little foodies have been busy this term. Milk and fruit were blended into smoothies, Christmas cookies decorated with hundreds and thousands, veggies chopped for pizzas, and butter skillfully spread on toast!

Why not invite your little one into your kitchen at home to help you prepare your meals? You'll be surprised at what they are capable of...beyond eating! Following instructions (literacy/language), practicing using culinary tools (fine motor skills), measuring amounts (maths), and expressing creativity.

# The Nativity raffle raised an impressive £479.45!

+++Plus £85 from those who bought Stella & Dot jewellery—Thanks Ali Gray!

A BIG thank you to the generous Nativity raffle sponsors and Melanie Lyons who led the fundraising charge!

Car Care Ealing  
Stella & Dot  
Maxims  
Odds Farm Park  
The Duke of Kent  
Harrow Arts Centre  
Rainforest Cafe  
Cath Kidston  
Battersea Park Zoo  
Kew Gardens  
Twisters  
London Wetland Centre  
Health in Motion  
Topsy Turvy World

Starbucks  
City River Cruise  
Peerless Windows  
Queen's Ice & Bowl  
The Forester  
Brentford FC  
Kew Bridge Steam Museum  
MSN Hair & Beauty  
Tesco  
Look Out Discovery Centre  
Beale Park  
Oshair  
Fuller's Brewery  
Little Language Learner

Cafe Florentine  
Darch & Duff  
Hynes Optometrist  
Harris & Hoole  
Game  
Makers & Shakers  
Northfields Pharmacy  
Caffe Nero  
Pret a Manger  
Costa Coffee  
Papillon  
Coral Reef  
Creperie Cilla  
Waitrose

# DON'T MISS

## OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT

### Parent/Carer Social Evening + Annual General Meeting

Join us at **8pm Thursday 30th January**—mingle with other parents and carers and chat with the staff and committee members. Find out more about your child and their time at Splash and Dash and the school operations.

### Parent/Carer Feedback Sessions

Meet with your child's key worker **5th March** to discuss his/her progress at pre-school and plans for their future development. Bring your questions and share any concerns.

#### Chinese New Year

The children will be welcoming in the year of the horse on 31st January with a chance to slurp some yummy Chinese noodles....with their very own chopsticks! We'll also be attempting a traditional lion dance!

#### Valentine's Day

Please dress children attending the 13th February session in Valentine's Day red. We will be baking heart-shaped biscuits and making homemade chocolate treats for our loved ones.

#### Drop-in Sessions

Don't forget we accept children for drop-in sessions with on-the-day payment, as long as we can still meet the required staff/child ratios. If you wish to take advantage of this on a day your child doesn't normally attend, like a fun party day, check with Fatima. £13.50 per session.

#### Lunch Club

Lunch club is not only an opportunity for an extra hour you may need for yourself, it is a fun way for children to forge friendships in smaller groups and do extra fun activities, like pizza making .... mmm! No need to book in advance—just bring a packed lunch and £5 for the session.

## diary

### january

**30**

Parent/Carer Social Evening + Annual General Meeting

**31**

Chinese New Year Celebration

### february

**13**

First half of Spring Term ends  
Valentine's Day Celebration

**24**

Second half of Spring Term begins

### march

**5**

Parents Feedback Morning

### april

**4**

Last day of Spring term

### may

**5**

Bank holiday

### june

**2**

First day of 2nd half of Summer term

### july

**17**

Last day of Summer term

**24**

First day of Summer term

**22**

Last day of 1st half of Summer term