



# Autumn 2014 Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter this preschool year. I hope it gives you all an insight into what your little ones are learning about and some of the fun things they will be getting up to this term.

May I start with a small request though? We need volunteers to help out with both our kids and parents' Christmas party and our annual bazaar. The Christmas party will take place on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December in the hall where the preschool is held – we will send out more details on this shortly.

The bazaar is provisionally going to take place in February with a Global Village theme. It would be wonderful to have input from parents from a wide variety of cultures who can volunteer to donate food or crafts to sell in the stalls of our event. This is one of the main fundraising events in our preschool calendar so the more volunteers who can get behind the wheel to steer it to success, the better! I've already got some ideas to share for making it a fantastic day but would love to hear all your ideas too so that we can make this a really special event for the entire Splash and Dash community!

Fatima

**EVER TRIED YOUR HAND AT FUNDRAISING? OUR HEAD FUNDRAISER, SARAH AMIN, NEEDS YOUR HELP TO START PLANNING OUR GLOBAL VILLAGE BAZAAR – PLEASE CONTACT SARAH AT [SALSOOL30@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SALSOOL30@GMAIL.COM) AND HELP SUPPORT THIS FUN EVENT! THE MORE THE MERRIER!**

# Meet the Team



Fatima Rafiq  
Pre-school Manager



Tracy Malham  
Deputy Manager



Angeles Perez  
Senior Practitioner



Emma Mellish  
Pre-school Practitioner



Nabeela Jabeen  
Pre-school Practitioner

If you have any questions about your child's activities and progress at Splash & Dash please speak to your key worker or Fatima.

## Introducing Your Committee

We have started this term with an almost completely new committee line-up. A big thank you to all the parents/carers who are giving up their time to ensure the continued smooth running of the preschool. It couldn't carry on without this level of support!!

Members of the new team are:

Liz Lee – Chair

Jacx Herve & Bally Badesha – Co-Vice Chairs

Ayesha Minhas - Treasurer

Charlotte Hillier - Banker

Victoria Moller – Membership Sec & Newsletter

Monica Hiroya – Secretary

Head Fundraiser – Sarah Amin

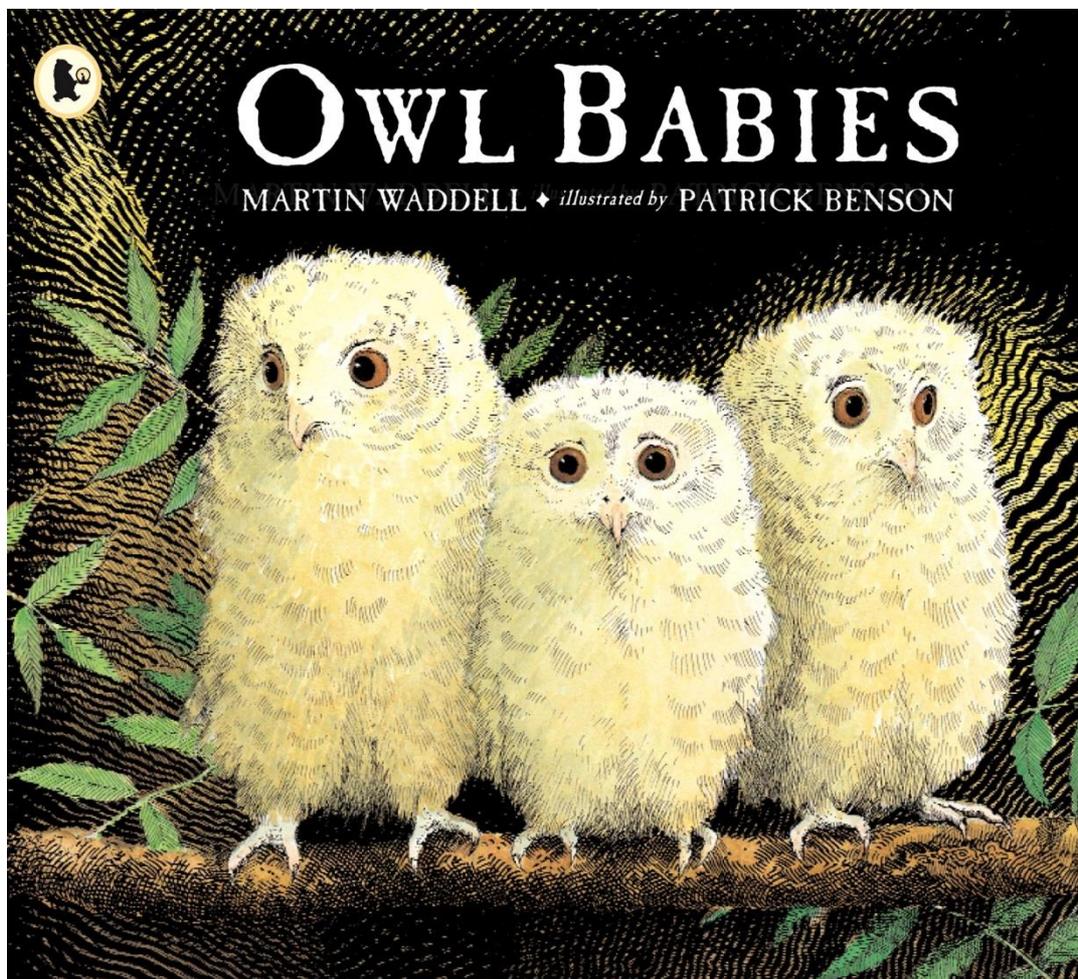
## AUTUMN TERM THEMES:

What festivals do you celebrate at home with your kids? Please let your child's key worker know if there are any events/festivals not included in our current list that you'd like the staff to celebrate with the children.

SEPTEMBER –  
DECEMBER

Eid  
Harvest Festival  
Seasons of the year -  
Autumn  
Halloween  
Guy Fawkes Night  
Diwali  
Christmas

\*Subject to additions and  
changes



## WAITING WITH THE OWL BABIES

During this term's very important settling in period our little ones have been listening to the story of three baby owls, who wake up to find their mother has disappeared. *Owl Babies*, from Walker Books, is the charming tale of Sarah, Percy and Bill, who wait on a branch as darkness gathers around them for their mum to return. There's some anxious waiting before their mum's happy return but this is a great way to introduce the idea of drop offs and pick ups to your child.

## New Legislation – Does it Affect Your Child?

The Children and Families Act 2014 requires local authorities to publish, in a single place, information on services and provision across education, transport, health and social care for children and young people aged 0-25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The purpose of this 'local offer' is to enable parents, carers and young people to see more clearly what services are available for children with SEND in their area – and how to access them. As an Early Years Provider, Splash and Dash provides for children with special educational needs and disabilities. If you have any questions or concerns about your child, the new policy, and/or what support is available to you, please talk to either of our SEND Co-ordinators – Tracy Malham or Angeles Perez.

# BITS & BOBS

## Clothing Change

Please remember to bring in a spare set of clothes for your little one – with water play and paint around things can get pretty messy so it's very handy if the staff have clean clothes to change .

## Spare Clothes Bag

The preschool has a spare clothes bag for clothes changes after any big spills. It is very low on all items at the moment so any donations of T-shirts, trousers/leggings and socks would be very welcome!

## Labels Please

To ensure that none of your child's property (clothing, beakers, lunch bags etc) goes missing please label everything clearly – all items must be cleared from the hall after each session so staff need to know whose an item is if it gets forgotten or left behind.



## 2014 – 2015 Term Dates

### Autumn Term

1<sup>st</sup> Half

8 Sept – 23 Oct

2<sup>nd</sup> Half

3 Nov – 16 Dec

### Spring Term

1<sup>st</sup> Half

5 Jan – 13 Feb

2<sup>nd</sup> Half

24 Feb – 26 Mar

### Summer Term

1<sup>st</sup> Half

13 Apr – 22 May

2<sup>nd</sup> Half

2 June – 17 July

## Harvest Festival 2014

Kingsdown Methodist Church is holding its Harvest Festival Service on Sunday, 12 October. The church's charity for this year is the Ealing Food Bank – any food donations from the list below would be gratefully accepted to add to the congregation's offerings.

The Ealing Food Bank has requested items such as instant mashed potato, long-life fruit juice, steamed puddings, cooking oil, rice pudding, custard, cooking sauces, sugar, tinned meat, deodorant, and toilet rolls – all with 'best before' dates well ahead if possible. Anything you can give would be most appreciated but please do not bring fresh items at the Food Bank's suggestion.

## CALLING ALL PARENT/CARER VOLUNTEERS

Would you like to help out at Splash & Dash occasionally? Volunteering to help out during a session can make a big difference to the range of activities that the kids get the opportunity to become involved in, such as more cooking sessions. It also frees up staff to put even more emphasis on areas such as child observation. Please speak to Fatima if you are interested.

