



GROWING
UP

Summer FETE 2011

WWW.SNAPDRAGONSURSERY.COM

GAMES & STALLS
BOUNCY CASTLES
BARBECUE
FACE PAINTING
RAFFLE
STARBUCKS

SATURDAY
JULY 9TH 13:30
TO
16:00

HENLEY LODGE, WESTON ROAD, BATH BA1 2XT

May 2011

contents



8

COVER

PLANTING ROOTS

Children at Snapdragons learn about the origins of fruit and vegetables and how they can grow and cultivate their own produce in their back garden.

2

REGULARS

NEWSDESK

Warleigh Lodge Farm, Bath Rugby stars visit, baby chicks, Red Nose Day, iPads and more!

6

INCOMING

The amazing Summer Fete is almost upon us! And Pre-School Graduation Days are approaching!

14

HEALTHCARE

Summertime can be a high-risk situation for many children. Learn how you can protect them.

18

QUIZ

Enter our hidden items competition for a chance to win a luxury children's sleeping bag from The Toy Box.

7

PARENT FEATURES

ACTIVITY CENTRE

Mould and shape your own gloop or playdough for fun messy play at home.

10

RECYCLING WITH CHILDREN

Our children head to the recycling centre.

13

HOME PLAY

Kat Davey talks us through how our Pre-Schoolers will be transitioning to 'Big School.'

16

OUR STAFF

THE SPOTLIGHT

We sit down for a conversation with Jon Book & Alice Massey, both newly appointed as Head of Out of School within Snapdragons.

17

STAFF NEWS

Announcements straight from the staff room - marriages, births, promotions

Snapdragons
Nursery

CORSHAM

Pound Pill, Corsham,
Wiltshire,
SN13 9YW
01249 714060

WESTON

Henley Lodge, Weston
Road, Bath, BA1 2XT
01225 426255

GROSVENOR

4 Grosvenor Place,
Bath,
BA1 6AX
01225 483660

BROADWOOD

Broadwood Avenue,
Corsham,
SN13 0LX
01225 811515

ATWORTH

43 Bath Road,
Atworth, Wiltshire,
SN12 8JW
01225 707009

MELKSHAM

3 St Margaret's
Gardens,
Melksham, Wiltshire,
SN12 7BT
01225 899488

EDITORS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
James Collard

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Mary Llewellyn

ASSISTANT EDITORS
Rosemary Collard
Francesca Thompson
Nicki Jones



Newsdesk

A look back at the biggest stories from Snapdragons over the past season.

Farmyard tales

During March & April, Snapdragons children from across the counties descended on Warleigh Lodge Farm in Bathford for their annual Pre-School trip.

See all the photos and videos on our website!

<http://goo.gl/ZamPK>

Warleigh Lodge Farm, on the outskirts of Bathford, is a beautiful, idyllic farmyard specifically designed to cater for the needs of children from local nurseries and schools.

Snapdragons have had a strong relationship with them for the past ten years and, in that time, have taken many groups of children on excursions to the farm in the spring and summer to enjoy the delights that it has to offer.

This year, like every other before it, the weather allowed the children to stretch their legs as they charged through the fields and across the countryside, coming back briefly to feed the lambs and the pigs and to groom the donkeys.

Rides on the farmer's tractor or an investigation in Peter Rabbit's Tree only served to enhance their enjoyment and everyone was sad to see the back of the farm for one more year.

We at Snapdragons would like to thank Farmer Julian and his wife Rosemary for yet another perfect adventure for the Snapdragons children.

If anyone is interested in holding their child's birthday party at Warleigh Lodge Farm then you can contact them on 01225 859065. They also sell a delicious selection of sausages and eggs if you are interested in purchasing any of these goods.





Chicks are in safe hands

Children at Snapdragons Weston have spent the past month caring for their newborn chicks and teaching them the ways of the world.

Over the course of a few days the ten incubated eggs hatched into beautiful fluffy chicks which the children and staff all took to extremely quickly.

Chicks grow suprisingly rapidly and by the next week they were twice the size and their feathered wings were sprouting.

We are now looking forward to keeping five of the chicks in our special chicken and rabbit pen outside when they are fully grown egg layers!

Storytelling sessions

Our storytelling sessions across the nurseries in coalition with National Storytelling Week were a huge success for all of the children who attended them.

Janey wowed them all with her magical retelling of 'The Elves & The Shoemaker', using a variety of homemade props and devices to bring the story to life.

Everyone enjoyed it so much that we hope to make it a regular feature for Snapdragons each year. Janey is already preparing her props for 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'.

Grosvenor's indoor oasis

The new indoor beach is a luxurious part of the Grosvenor Toddler Room.



Red Nose Day

We had some wonderful efforts by our nurseries to raise money for a special Gruffalo-themed Comic Relief 2011!

There was Comic Relief fever throughout March as children and staff donned their Red Noses and creative, fundraising hats.

There was a strong Gruffalo theme for 2011 and the nurseries jumped at the opportunity to incorporate this into their plans.

At Snapdragons Corsham, children created Gruffalo crafts and cooking and were treated to a bedtime story as well as a dress-up and Stay & Play day. Meanwhile, at Broadwood, everyone took part in a crazy, sponsored dance and they alone raised over £550 which was fantastic!

Children at Snapdragons Melksham dressed up and made Gruffalo cakes and Red Nose biscuits, selling them to parents. They also had a Gruffalo hunt in the garden, looking for the Gruffalo and the other characters before having 'roasted fox' and 'owl ice-cream' for lunch! Atworth children made masks and cookies and also went on an exciting Gruffalo-hunt!

In Bath, Grosvenor had a big dress-up day with Babies in red, Toddlers in spots & stripes and Pre-School as monsters! They all made masks, red nose cakes and danced! Finally, at our Weston nursery, children were treated to a spectacular performance of the Gruffalo, put on by the staff one evening. You can all see this show on the Weston website.

Overall as a company we raised over £1000 for Comic Relief and were delighted to help out in these rich and varied ways.

We have many more ideas lined up for fundraising events this year which you can read about in our Incoming section on page 6.



Sophie & Lucy celebrate Red Nose Day, Gruffalo-style!

New and improved gardens



We were excited to unveil a revamped garden area at our Weston nursery in April.

Put into place by Red Monkey, the same company responsible for our recent Grosvenor garden, the old surfacing was dug up and replaced with some beautiful new rubber, designed to look like bark.

Along with this, children are treated to a new sandbox, mirror, chalk board, water features and musical instruments - all of which are going down a storm and are a perfect addition to our fabulous garden.

RABBITS Grosvenor is now home to some beautiful new rabbits, named Gizmo & Rufus. The children are enjoying taking care of and playing with these gorgeous animals.

Bath Rugby players visit

Two Bath Rugby stars visited Holiday Club children at Snapdragons Weston to tutor them in some of the basic skills needed to be a top player.

Jack Cuthbert & Ben Skirving both visited children at the Holiday Club in Weston in April as part of Bath Rugby's 'Up & Unders' training scheme.

They spent the afternoon working with the children, educating them in the art of Premiership rugby skills and leaving them

all with huge smiles on their faces.

We would like to thank Bath Rugby and the players for taking the time to come and visit us at Snapdragons. If any Pre-School parents are interested in their children taking part in 'Up & Unders' then please speak to your key person.



News in brief

World Book Day

Broadwood celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as a favourite book character, including Wendy who dressed as a zebra from a favourite book that she had at home! She also brought the book in to read to the children.

Valentine's Ball

Children at Snapdragons Melksham dressed up in posh frocks and outfits and danced away with each other in their specially decorated Valentine's Room.

Babies to Moove

Atworth Baby Room went on a special day trip to Moove soft play centre in Trowbridge at the end of March. They all had a fantastic time out and about and we hope to go again soon.

Pre-School learn with iPads

Children at Snapdragons are now able to enhance their learning with the recent acquisition of some Apple iPads.

Many of the children have access to touchscreen devices at home already and therefore have the skills needed to make the most of the iPads.

Coupled with a huge selection of applications available for educational and entertainment purposes, the new devices are already proving to be a huge success within our Pre-School rooms and the staff are utilising them within their planning to

maximise their effectiveness.

The new models also include a webcam to allow children to communicate with each other between the Pre-Schools or further afield.

The iPads are currently being rolled out throughout the nurseries and will be available in all of the Pre-Schools by the summer.



Forest school learning at Atworth

Janey is now carrying out regular forest school sessions on Wednesday mornings at Snapdragons Atworth.

Activities include learning about setting boundaries, making clay forest folk on the trees or collecting objects like feathers, flowers or stones to talk about and use in art projects.

Janey also made a loom out of hazel and string and the children have woven brightly coloured wool to make a beautiful piece of artwork embellished with feathers, leaves and flowers.

The sessions always include lighting a fire to boil up the kelly kettle and making hot chocolate.

The summer house outside has also been turned into a wet weather alternative venue for the children to use if necessary.

HOLIDAY CLUB Snapdragons Broadwood are now offering Holiday Club care for school children aged 4-12 in the out of term periods. Call Karen on 01225 811515 for more information or to make a booking.

Incoming

Your guide to the best events over the next season at Snapdragons Nursery.

Summer Fete

Saturday 9th July, 13:30 - 16:00

Snapdragons Weston, Henley Lodge, Bath



There's something for everyone at our summer fete so bring your friends and family and ensure you don't miss out!

Relax in the beautiful, spacious grounds at Weston while the children enjoy the traditional stalls and games, including the popular 'Panning for Gold' experience and the essential face painting stall as well as a bouncy castle for the more energetic visitors.

Grown-ups can stock up their cellars by trying their luck at the bottle tombola and of

course we'll be holding a raffle with a chance to win a selection of wonderful prizes.

And there's also the delightful prospect of a delicious barbecue, refreshing drinks, ice lollies and cream teas.

It's not too late if you want to run a stall at our fete as well! Just call Mary on 01225 707009 for more information.

You know you can't resist, so grab your sunhats and we'll see you there!

Graduation days

With hundreds of Pre-School children leaving Snapdragons to head off to school this summer, we are preparing to host our Graduation Ceremonies.

This is an exciting event we hold for the leaving Pre-School children, presenting them with a certificate and

hat for their time spent at Snapdragons, which is also a lovely chance to meet or say goodbye to the other parents and families.

Atworth

Thursday 7th July

Broadwood

Saturday 6th August

Corsham

Saturday 23rd July

Grosvenor

Thursday 14th July

Melksham

Wednesday 17th August

Weston

Saturday 16th July

OTHER COMING EVENTS

ATWORTH

During the Summer term we will be taking regular trips to Atworth school to use their swimming pool!

Sports day will be held in June at the Atworth school playing field. Date to be confirmed.

Stay & Play session will be held on Thursday 2nd June for all age groups from 10:00 - 11:00.

BROADWOOD

In August we will be holding a Summer barbecue for children, parents and staff. Date to be confirmed.

CORSHAM

Precious Moments will be coming into nursery on the 19th & 20th May. More details to follow.

GROSVENOR

Sports day will be held on Wednesday 1st June at 13:30 for Pre-School children!

MELKSHAM

Pre-School sports day will be held during the month of June with Sportzcoach. Confirmed date to follow.

During July we will be holding a beach weekend complete with paddling pool, sandpit and swimming costumes!

WESTON

Quiz Night is coming on Saturday May 14th from 19:30! Tickets still available with free dinner!

Our Sports Day is scheduled for Saturday 4th June, from 14:00 - 16:00. We will be sending out invites soon!

BIG TODDLE Our nurseries will be fundraising for disadvantaged children in Barnardos' 'Big Toddle' in June & July. Look out for dates at your nursery soon!



Making your own gloop is an easy activity but one that will give the children hours of fun and enjoyment and can be used in a variety of different ways.

What you'll need:

- 2 cups of cornflour
- 1 cup of water
- Some food colouring
- A mixing bowl

Estimated time:

10 minutes

NOTE: Certain food colourings can stain clothing so aprons are always advisable.

GLOOPY GOO



STEP 1

Sort out your ingredients - water and cornflour as well as a big bowl for mixing them in.

STEP 2

Mix the ingredients together in a bowl. It doesn't matter if you get mucky - that's the whole point!



STEP 3

Um... that's it. You're done! Now enjoy yourselves playing with your own gloop or maybe...



... add some food colouring or paint to make a special colourful mixture!



PLA



by Vicky Tye,
Pre-School
Nursery Nurse



PLANTING ROOTS

At Snapdragons we pride ourselves on offering activities which are not just fun but educational for the children - however it helps if the two go hand in hand!

At present Pre-school are regenerating the vegetable patch and cultivating the soil ready for the seedlings to be planted. The related activities teach the children many different skills and also lead into many areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), the guidelines for early years childcare.



“Fresh air contains high levels of negative ions - negative ions increase lung capacity and the ability to absorb oxygen, which is vital for brain, tissue and nerve cell function and development”.

plant need to grow? It also encourages children to partake in problem solving, reasoning and numeracy - they can measure which plants are the tallest / smallest and again think about why this may have occurred, what could be changed to allow the smaller plants to grow?

It is recommended by the Food Standards Agency that children should eat five portions

of fruit and vegetables each day.

Lucy Thomas, author of Taste for Life and child feeding expert, suggests that high level of involvement ‘allows the children to find the food more appealing and familiar once they have explored and understood it better’. At Snapdragons the children are involved in the growing process, with the higher level of ownership in an event, and providing the children with a sense of purpose and responsibility - they are more likely to venture to try their own courgette or bean.

The process of working together on a project also allows the children to interact well. It is important for children to work together, as advocated by Marion Dowling, childcare author, for them to ‘acquire and practice complex social skills’. During our gardening sessions, the children have been involved in a discussion as to what they would like to plant and selected the seeds themselves on a trip to the garden centre. The children have also been working together to look after the plants, allocating groups for weeding, raking, watering and planting. This can also be linked to areas of the EYFS for sorting and communication aspects.

Lots of links from work conducted outside can then be incorporated indoors too. We have worked on measuring ourselves – what height are we? (Numeracy within the EYFS), we have also been reading ‘Jack and the Beanstalk’ (Communication within the EYFS) and discussing the weather and what a plant needs to grow properly (Knowledge and Understanding of the World).

The initial benefits of being outdoors are immense - it is important to diversify children’s experiences of the outside environment, and it allows discussion on the effects that exercise has on our bodies. Outdoor activity helps to address health problems and enhances wellbeing .The 2009 Department of Health publication “Be Active, Be Healthy” estimates the annual cost to the NHS of physical inactivity at between £1 billion and £1.8 billion. It recognizes the importance of the outdoors:

“Natural environments offer an important setting for health-enhancing physical activity. Contact with nature has been shown to improve people’s physical and mental health”.

The benefit of discussing what we are doing with the plants and the opportunity to watch them grow in the setting allows the children to use their cognitive skills - what does the



The whole experience is a great learning process for the children and provides an opportunity to be in the outdoors in our spacious garden. The children are learning and loving what they do, and what could be better than that!

Why not show the children how tasty their fruits & vegetables are by having a go at our delicious seasonal recipe!

Vicky Tye

v.tye@staff.snapdragons.co



Roasted Tomato Soup with optional red peppers

INGREDIENTS

1 kilo ripe, home-grown tomatoes, quartered
2 red peppers, seeds and stalks removed, quartered
2 red onions, chopped
2 cloves garlic, chopped
1 litre vegetable stock
A large handful of fresh basil, chopped or shredded
Olive oil
Salt and pepper

1. Preheat the oven to 220°C/gas mark 7.
2. Place the peppers (optional) and tomatoes in a roasting tin and drizzle with olive oil. Season and roast in oven for 20-25 mins until slightly charred and soft.
3. Meanwhile, in a large saucepan, gently fry the onions and garlic in olive oil until soft, but not browned.
4. Add the vegetable stock and bring gently to the boil, then remove from the heat and spoon in the roasted vegetables with all their cooking juices.
5. Using a hand held electric blender, puree the soup until smooth. Check the seasoning and serve with a scattering of basil and some crusty bread.

This is also good with a swirl of balsamic vinegar or some fried chorizo chunks with their cooking juice.



RECYCLING

with the children



Recycling is a huge part of all of our lives at the moment and we love to support that at Snapdragons by getting the children out of the nursery and down to recycling depots to help deposit the used nursery goods.

The children love the sounds of the glass jars as they tumble in and can make what some see as a tedious job seem very fun!



Developing Environmental Awareness

Snapdragons staff have taken part in an environmental course that is aimed at organisations who have an interest in the implementation of environmental policies / promotion and reducing their environmental impact.

The course provided us with knowledge, skills and understanding of the main environmental issues facing organisations such as:

- How to carry out an environmental audit in our own organisation
- How to manage scarce environmental resources
- How to reduce the risk of pollution.

The course also covered other interesting topics including:

- Introducing the Principles of Environmental Awareness
- Managing Energy Usage
- Managing Waste Disposal

- Managing the Use Of Transport
- Managing Water Use
- Reducing the Risk of Pollution.

From a managerial point of view, this course has encouraged us to introduce and implement more environmentally friendly practices into our organisation as well as highlighted social, moral and legal responsibilities that organisations have in respect of the environment.

Members of staff who successfully completed the Environmental Awareness training:

Carli Adams & Emma Wells, Corsham;
Claire Jones & Laura Coppin, Broadwood;
Lizzie Stubbs & Anna Horwood, Melksham;
Elizabeth MacDonald & Yasmin Fricker, Grosvenor;
Sara Steinfeldt & Rebecca Kenyon, Atworth
Nicki Jones, Camilla Prosser & Kat Davey, Weston

Transitioning to 'Big School'

As September approaches, staff within our Pre-Schools will start their final preparations for sending the children off to school. This is an exciting and adventurous time of year and there will be lots of things happening throughout Snapdragons to support the children and their families during this transition to School.

All our nurseries in Wiltshire and Bath have a united approach. When you find out which school your child will be attending we will contact them and invite them in for a visit to see the children busy playing in their learning environment. We will let you know about these visits and you are more than welcome



to come and attend them with us. This is a great opportunity to meet the children's new teachers and for the teachers to see the children in an environment that they are happy and secure in. However, we do understand that it is not always possible for the reception teachers to make these visits. In these cases we have a discussion about the children over the phone to give the teachers a real sense of how each of the children are and what wonderful personalities they all have.

Your child's keyperson will complete a 'transfer record'. This is very similar to the achievements and targets sheet that is in the child's learning journey and is about your child's development. There is a general comments box which is used for informing the new teacher about how your child feels about school and about who they are as an individual. These transfer records are sent home for you to read through and there is an additional box for you to add any further comments.

Before your child starts school in September they will be invited to attend a taster session at their school. This is an opportunity to see their new classroom, meet new children who will be in their class and get to know their new teacher. While they are there they will usually enjoy a short story as well.

In Snapdragons we have children who go to a range of schools in their local area. Around



the time you receive your letter confirming the school your child will be attending, we will have a form on the door where you can fill in your child's name and the school they will be going to. This gives you the opportunity to discover other children that are going to the same school. Maybe you could arrange play dates and start to get to know other parents. We will also be holding story sessions with all the children heading off to school so they can slowly get to know one another.

There will be lots of group discussion and activities based around school. Our aim is to send them off to school happy and excited about their new adventure. The children can be worried about what school is about so it is important for staff and parents to keep talking to them about all the fun things they will be getting up to. We also encourage parents to bring in any photos they have of family members who have been to school or siblings who are already at their new school. If they are the first ones in their family to be taking this step, we like to show them photos of children from their school dressed in the uniform to familiarise them with their new surroundings. We will be encouraging the children to draw pictures of what they think school is and how they feel about it.

Usually they are extremely excited. In the cases where they are unsure we reassure them that it is okay to feel like this and will continue talking to them to build up their confidence levels about school.

Role play is also a fantastic way of encouraging children to think about school. We will be setting up the home corner area to help support this e.g. taking registers, role playing as a teacher etc. School is a fun place to be and this is the message we want to send to them.

As part of our Big Steps planning we will be focusing more on school.

There will be lots of talking, drawing, paintings, stories and much more to express how they feel about school and ways in which we can extend their knowledge about it.

We would really encourage you to talk to your child's key person about any worries, concerns, questions or any ideas that you may have in relation to your child's transition to school.

Above all, we need to develop their self-confidence and show them that they can be really excited about this next step in their life.

Kat Davey
k.davey@staff.snapdragons.co



Kat Davey,
Head of Pre-School,
Weston

”

Our aim at Snapdragons is to send the children off to school happy and excited about their new adventure.

Healthcare

Read about common health issues and have your questions answered.



Francesca Thompson,
Health Advisor
for Snapdragons
Nursery

Summer safety

Everyone is excited to see the arrival of the British summer which gives us the opportunity at home and at Snapdragons to spend more time outside enjoying the sunshine and the warm weather. But with it comes more risks and dangers to be aware of when caring for your children outdoors. Read our top tips for protecting your children over the summer.

In the sun

The reason that children are so susceptible to the harmful effects of the sun is that their skin is literally thinner the younger they are, with a baby's being something like 1/5th the thickness of an adult's.

A child's skin can burn in as little as 10 minutes. With that in mind it is important to bear in mind the following things:

- Sunscreen with a high protection factor of 50 or above is essential
- Apply sunscreen 15-30 minutes before going outside and apply again once outside
- Babies should never be left in the direct sun - place pushchairs in the shade under a canopy
- Children should wear wraparound sunglasses
- Cover children with cool, close weave baggy clothing - cotton and linen are excellent
- Change clothing once wet as 50% of UV protection is lost
- All in one swimsuits are now available with sleeves and legs
- Wear a hat - wide brimmed to protect the head, face and neck
- Seek shade between 11:00 and 15:00 and do not forget that the sand reflects up to 25% of UV rays
- Ensure that your child has fluids every hour. Signs of overheating and dehydration are dry nappies, feeling nauseated and irritable. Severe symptoms are seeming floppy and listless, sunken eyes or fontanelle and medical help must be sought.

By the water

Many drownings and near-drownings occur when children are left unattended by a pool, pond or in the bath - one inch is enough and in a matter of seconds!

It can happen in the time it takes a parent to answer the phone while the paddling pool is being filled, so ignore the phone or take your toddler with you. It isn't surprising then, that the majority of all drownings occur between May and August.

- Never leave your child alone in or around a swimming pool - 60 - 90% of drownings occur in residential pools.
- Always watch your child and make sure they wear a personal flotation device such as water wings.
- Teach your child how to swim and about water safety habits. Children should not run, push others under water, jump on others, dive or jump in shallow water.

”

Ensure that your child takes on fluids every hour to prevent dehydration. They may not want to but it is very important during the hot summer months.



Bath Baby & Toddler Show

24th September 2011

The Bath Pavilion 10am - 4pm



small steps baby face
competition

Shopping
Information
Entertainment
Demonstrations

www.bathbabyandtoddlershow.co.uk

the 'space to grow' Campaign
for our premature babies

COUNT THE KICKS™
empowering mums-to-be with knowledge & confidence



Fun and Inspiring
Arts & Crafts
Classes for 1-11 year olds



'Little Explorers' classes currently running in Bath and surrounds for ages 1-5 years.
Free taster sessions available!

'Arty Parties' for memorable and stress-free birthday parties!
Invites, craft materials and party bags all included.



"Big fun for little People!"

Call or email for more information.

Nicki Smith

T: 0844 854 9086

E: nickismith@thecreationstation.co.uk



Discover Weekly Classes, Arty Parties & Much More at:
www.thecreationstation.co.uk

How do you say 'freedom' in nursery?

Snapdragons.



For nursery, say Snapdragons.
Bath & Wiltshire
www.snapdragonsnursery.com



The Toy Box CORSHAM

We stock timeless and traditional toys for all ages

Lamaze, Sylvanian Families, Thomas Wooden Railway, Le Toy Van, Bruder Trucks, Britains Farms, Meccano, K'nex, Science museum kits, Button bag craft kits, pocket money toys, and lots more coming in all the time.

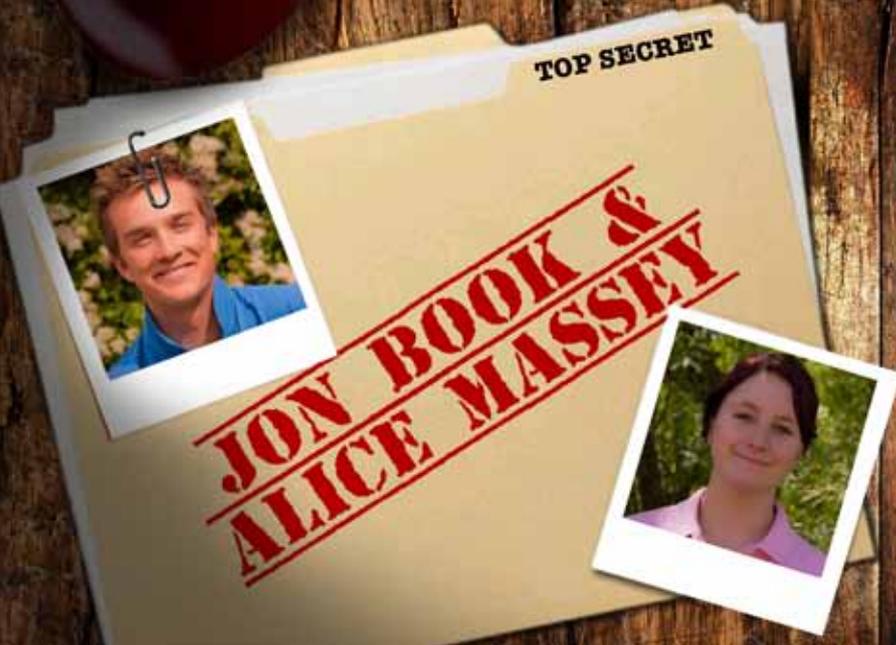
Happy to help if you need inspiration and ideas

We are now taking orders for handmade character sleeping bags and dressing up costumes. If you need something special contact us for details

Open 9.30 am to 5 pm Monday to Saturday

5 Martingate Centre, Corsham, Wiltshire. SN13 HL
01249 248280
thetoyboxcorsham@uwclub.net

SPOTLIGHT



NAME: Jon Book
SETTING: Snapdragons Weston
START DATE: November 2008
BACKGROUND: Having been a dedicated employee for three years, Jon has recently earned a promotion to Head of Out of School Club, a role he is relishing getting stuck into.

NAME: Alice Massey
SETTING: Snapdragons Corsham
START DATE: November 2006
BACKGROUND: Alice has also recently been promoted to Head of Holiday Club after five years of service and is excited to start planning loads of exciting activities.

What do you enjoy about your role at Snapdragons?

Jon: Helping to make all of the children happy.
Alice: I love working in Pre-School - we are a great team and work really hard to care, play and have lots of smiling Pre-School children every day. After School is very interesting and creates new challenges.

What's your favourite activity to carry out with the children?

J: I love holding sports activities outside in the garden. Either that or children's sleep time...
A: I always have fun creating gloop - all the children are amazed by the appearance and texture of it and it's great messy play!

On a scale of 1-10, how creative a person are you?

J: Probably only a one.
A: I think about a seven!

What's your favourite thing to do on a Saturday?

J: I love to play football and then have some drinks with my pals.
A: Go shopping for lovely new clothes! And spend time on the sofa just chilling out!

What's your signature dish?

J: Cottage pie, sweet potato with some delicious roasted root vegetables.
A: I wish I had one but I am a pretty dangerous person in the kitchen!

What film have you seen the most?

J: Scarface. Al Pacino is fantastic in it and it has some of the best scenes in movie history.
A: It's probably the film 'Calamity Jane'. I've watched it ever since I was little and it never gets boring.

What saying do you use the most?

J: "Lully", which means 'lovely'. Or "no mate".
A: I'm always talking - it's hard to say which one I use most though!

"I'm not a very creative person but love getting outside for sports with the children."

- Jon

What part did you play in your school play?

J: I played Oliver as far as I can remember.
A: I played the leading girl role at Corsham Primary School - that was a long time ago though!

If you were stuck in a lift with a celebrity, who would you choose?

J: Sir Alex Ferguson - I reckon I could teach him a thing or two about football.
A: Michael Bubl , without a doubt.

What would be your specialist subject on Mastermind?

J: Premier League years.
A: Movies, I watch a lot of them.

What is your song of choice for karaoke?

J: Westlife - 'Flying Without Wings'.
A: The summer loving song from Grease, because then someone else sings with you!

What one thing can you do better than anyone else you know?

J: Breakdance whilst playing a flute. No one else can do it so I must be in with a chance.
A: Everyone I know is equally as good at everything I am!

How do you like your eggs?

J: With a kiss, boiled or fried - I'm satisfied!
A: Scrambled.

Finally, what were you like at school?

J: Amazing.
A: Always sitting at the back nattering.

"Children love playing with and making gloop - it's wonderful messy play for them!"

- Alice

Jon was interviewed in March 2011 and Alice in April 2011.

Staffnews

Our latest employee news from all of our nurseries.

EXPECTING

Employee pregnancy announcements

- 01 Sadie Bence**, Weston, due August 2011
- Lucy Smart**, Corsham, due April 25th 2011
- Alyssa Jackson**, Atworth, due October 14th 2011
- Hayley Crawford**, Atworth, due August 18th 2011

BIRTHS

Coo, coo

- Kelli Rule**, Weston, Henri born 14th March 2011 at 11:17, weighing 7lb.
- 02 Katie Bolwell**, Corsham, Alfie & Archie born 9th February 2011, weighing 5lb 90z each.
- 03 Jo Field**, Corsham, Isaac Thomas & Lois Imogen born 16th February 2011, weighing 7lb 10oz and 6lb 15oz respectively.
- Emma Walker**, Broadwood, Georgie born 24th March, weighing 7lb 4oz.
- Karen Jones**, Broadwood, grandson Callum born 18th March, weighing 7lb 11oz.
- Katie Adams**, Corsham, Phoebe Evelyn Grace born 11th April, weighing 7lb 7oz.
- Rachel Alsop**, Grosvenor, Amelia Evelyn Ruth born 17th April, weighing 6lb 11oz.

MARRIAGES

Just engaged or just married

- 04 Kirsty Hobbs**, Weston, engaged to Darren in December 2010, due to be married August 2012

GRADUATES

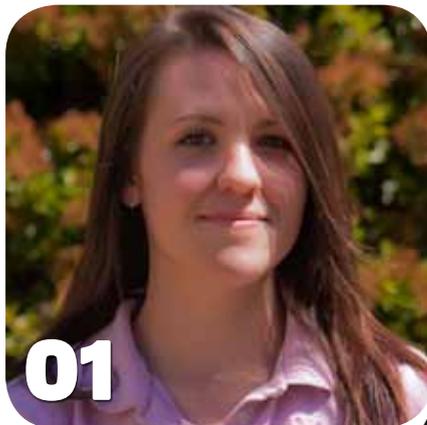
Recently qualified

- Leila Grabham**, Grosvenor, CACHE Diploma in Early Years Foundation Stage Practice
- Kayleigh Dainton**, Melksham, NVQ3 in Management
- 05 Charlotte Chesham**, Melksham, NVQ3 in Childcare
- Ashleigh Cooper**, Weston, NVQ3 in Childcare

PROMOTIONS

Moving on up

- Emma Wells**, Corsham, now Acting Head of Pre-School
- 06 Alice Massey**, Corsham, now Head of Holiday Club
- Hayley Fitton**, Grosvenor, now working as a dedicated Early Years Professional
- 07 Kim Davey**, Grosvenor, now Head of Pre-School
- 08 Chloe Cole (EYP)**, Atworth, now Head of Babies
- Jon Book**, Weston, now Head of Out of School



Quiztime

WIN!

find the tools!

Children's sleeping bag worth £45!

This luxurious sleeping bag from 'The Toy Box' in Corsham is a perfect snuggle blanket for your child. They will love climbing inside this delightful tortoise-shaped pouch and curling up for bed.



FIND THE GARDEN TOOLS!

There are seven tools below - six of these images are hidden in the pages of this magazine, one of them has gone missing.

Search for the tool images and tick the box of the one that cannot be found.



HOW TO ENTER Identify the missing tool and tick the box below. Send your completed page to **Mary Llewelin, Snapdragons Nursery, 43 Bath Road, Atworth, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 8JW**. Please include your name and address. Closing date for this competition is June 1st 2011. Winners are selected at random.