

## Portico Day Nurseries Ltd

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Registered in England & Wales No. 5720805



**PORTICO**  
Day Nurseries Ltd

Dear Parents

To start with we would like to welcome you all back and wish you a very happy 2010.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

This year nursery will be closing on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2010 at 6pm and we will be re-opening on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

Parents evening will take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010 from 5pm till 7pm. This gives you a great opportunity to sit down with your child's key worker and have a more in depth discussion about your child's progress and development as well as address any issues or concerns or add any suggestions that may help your child's time at nursery. Your child's key worker will approach you in the next couple of weeks with an allocated time to suit you. Please remember that you are invited into nursery at any time to discuss any issues with your child's key worker or to look at your child's personal development file and do remember that my door is always open if you need to discuss anything.

Nursery will be closed Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2010 for the Easter break.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**We have been thinking of organising a trip to Chester Zoo for nursery families and friends for a day out. We need to find out how many people are interested in attending before we look in to it further.**

**We are thinking of maybe after Easter and going on a Saturday. Some staff will be attending the day out but parents will be solely responsible for their own children.**

**If we have a good response to this idea then I will look into pricing the coach and tickets and organising the trip to leave from nursery.**

**I hope we can make this a success as it will be a great way for staff and families to create a good partnership for their children.**

**I have attached a letter of interest to the back of the newsletter so if you are interested please fill it in and return it as soon as possible so I can look into it further.**



ALSO AT: Portico Lodge, Portico Lane, PRESCOT L35 7JS

T: 0151 430 8005 E-Mail: [Info@PorticoLodge.co.uk](mailto:Info@PorticoLodge.co.uk)

N.A.Politis Director, C.E.Jackson Director

We are currently looking at photographers coming into nursery to take pictures of your child. We have used a range of professional companies in the past and when we have decided which one we are going with we will inform you. Please remember you are under no obligation to buy the photographs if you are not completely satisfied.

Over the last few weeks children from 2-3's and pre-school have been enjoying music and movement lessons on a Thursday morning with Miss Sarah a qualified dance instructor. Each lesson costs £2.00 and last for 30-45 minutes. We are hoping to continue these sessions for another term if we have enough children to participate, so if your child is interested in continuing the lessons or joining up please fill in the form attached and pass it back to nursery.

Over the next few months children will celebrate festivals and events in nursery. All the children will be celebrating Chinese New year and participating in a range of activities such as art and craft, dancing, changing the role play into a Chinese restaurant and tasting Chinese foods.

Also, Valentines day, Shrove Tuesday, St. Patrick's day, Mother's day and Easter will be coming up so there will be lots of activities for your child to get involved in over the next couple of months.

We will also be celebrating world book day on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2010. If your child would like to get involved then please feel free to let them get dressed up as their favourite book characters for the day and bring in their favourite story book. Please look out for posters nearer the time.

Also, a trip to the library for the pre-school children is getting planned so once we have received confirmation from the library we will be sending out consent forms and asking for volunteers to accompany us on the trip.

### **UPDATED PERSONAL DETAILS**

***Can I remind all parents and carers that if you have recently moved or have a new contact telephone or mobile number that you put this***

**information in writing so we can update our records. This information is crucial to keep up to date in case you need to be contacted in an emergency.**

### HEALTHY EATING AWARD

Over the last few months we have been working closely with Environmental Health team to gain our very own St. Helens Early Years Healthy Eating Award. Over the months representatives have been visiting our setting to carry out food tasting events, keep fit activities with staff and children and representatives who have looked closely at our menu to see if we have a varied balanced diet for our children, ensuring they have their intake of fruit and vegetables as well as interviewing myself over health and hygiene routines, ie supervised tooth brushing programme. With great pleasure I can say we passed and we are delighted that we know we offer a wide varied diet to the children when they are in our care.

We will soon be revising our menu shortly so if any parents have any delicious healthy recipes that their child enjoys at home please send the recipe into nursery for our cook to look at.

We also were awarded 4 stars from Environmental Health who came out and inspected our setting. This means we have "Good food safety management. High standard of compliance with food safety legislation."

All this information can be found on the Environmental health's website scores on the doors.

### STAFF INFORMATION

As some of you may have noticed Stephanie from baby room is expecting her first baby with her partner Michael. Steph will be leaving to go on maternity leave at the beginning of March and I am sure you will join me in congratulating her and wishing her all the best for the future. I will keep you all informed!!!

In March Rosie will be employed by us to cover Stephanie's maternity leave. Rosie has been with us for a very long time now and has grown in confidence within her job role. Rosie will be working half the week job sharing with Claire in 2-3's with Victoria then returning upstairs to pre-school to work alongside Natalie and Stacy.

We have also decided to take Hannah on as an apprentice to work alongside the girls in baby room. Like Rosie, Hannah has been with us a long time and is very capable in her job role. I would like to welcome both of them into our team.

Over the next few months new students will be joining our team. One student came to us on work experience and has decided that when she

leaves school she is taking up a course in childcare, so we must have made a good impression!!

Staff will be attending a wide variety of courses over the next year to enhance their knowledge of childcare and keep up to date with any new changes within the childcare sector. All this training ensures that staff implements the correct procedures into their daily routines to ensure each child is getting the best care possible.

### UNWANTED ITEMS

It is that time of year again when we need to replenish our heuristic baskets in nursery. We are asking for any unwanted items such as scarves, metal and wooden spoons, bodymops, pans, corks, whisks etc. These items are a great way for children to explore and investigate whilst improving their sensory and language skills.

We are also asking for any large teddy bears that are lying around the house not being used. Baby room are in need of some large teddies to cuddle so if you have then please pop them in to nursery.

### NURSERY RE-FURBISHMENT

Now all the building work and inside refurbishment is complete St. Helens Sure Start at Park Road are inspecting the work that we have had carried out. We are sending them before and after pictures of the transformation and quotes from staff and children about how the improvement of the building and rooms has benefited them in the setting. We would love to have your comments and be able to send them on to Park Road so they can see how parents feel about what the money we were awarded has done for you and your children.

If you feel you would like to then please add your comment to the slip provided. Some of these quotes may be used in the Park road newsletter but if you wish that they do not appear then please specify on the slip.

### NEW STARTERS

We would like to welcome all the new children and their families to our nursery.

Madalena, Layla, Macey, Matthew, Thomas, Ethan and Jacob. We hope your time here at nursery is a very enjoyable one.

### BIRTHDAYS THIS TERM

Jamie, Matthew, Ryley and Daniel will be celebrating their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday

Dean and Megan will be celebrating their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday

Ciaran, Ellie, Emma, Alfie and Hettie will be celebrating their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday

Max, Harry, Elliot and Scott will be celebrating their 1<sup>st</sup> birthday.

Claire, Debbie and Rosie will also be celebrating their birthday.

I am sure you will join me in wishing them all a very happy birthday!!!!

*I have updated the website recently and are in the process of giving it a little modernisation. Please take your time to have a browse.*

*Also, if you would like to contact me via email then my address is [debbie@portico.biz](mailto:debbie@portico.biz)*

Kind regards,  
Debbie

**I/We are interested in attending the family trip to Chester Zoo.**

**Childs name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of adults and children attending(approx)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated** \_\_\_\_\_

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**My child** \_\_\_\_\_ **would like to**  
**participate in the music and music lessons.**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated** \_\_\_\_\_

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**My/Our comment regarding the refurbishment of Portico Nursery.**

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**I/We do/do not give permission for our comment to be used in the Park road newsletter.**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated** \_\_\_\_\_