



Autumn 1/2018

# Trinket Box Newsletter

## Dates for the Diary

- Monday 15th  
October—  
Glastonbabies to  
visit.
- 22nd-26th  
October—Half  
term holiday  
(closed)
- 5th November -  
Portrait Photos  
(email to follow)
- W/c 12th  
November 'Hey  
Duggee Children  
In Need Dress Up  
Week' (email to  
follow)
- 22nd November—  
Parents Evening  
6.30-8.30pm (to  
be confirmed)
- Friday 14th  
December—  
Childrens  
Christmas Party  
(email to follow)
- 21st December—  
2nd January incl.—  
Christmas holidays  
(closed)

## Flu Vaccination

All children who are aged 2-3 years old can get the vaccine at their general practice. This is usually administered by the practice nurse and for most children is a quick and painless nasal spray. There are some children for whom the nasal spray is not suitable. GP practices will check suitability before offering the vaccine.

## London to Southend Jaunt for Jill!



As the summer time came to a close Jill Herron was embarking on a challenge of her own. Mum to Rose and George, who both attended Trinket Box and wife of Martin, one of our Committee members had been training hard for the feat that was before her.

Jill was cycling in the London to Southend Bike ride, a staggering 52 miles to raise funds for Trinket Box (52 minutes would be my limit.....let alone 52 miles!).

The day came with temperatures soaring to around 26 degrees but Jill braved the conditions and the saddle for the tiring journey.

**A TREMENDOUS WELL DONE TO JILL** who raised a whopping £225.50 for new resources. Here she is with her certificates, celebrating with a well earned glass of bubbly!

## **Fundraising Update: We've Shelled Out for Shelter!**

As you know we are always fundraising for the next resource to improve Trinket Box and we are pleased to announce that in the summer holidays we had a large shelter installed in our garden.

This large construction will not only safeguard the children against the sun in hotter times but will allow the children to play outside in all weathers without getting wet if they don't want to! We have an 'all weather outside play policy' so children will go out unless it is unsafe to do so. Now they can choose to experience the fresh air without getting wet.

Some of our children experiencing our garden area.



## APPLYING FOR YOUR CHILDS SCHOOL PLACE

Is your child going to be 4 years old before 31st August 2019?

Then NOW is the time to apply for your childs school place. This is done via the council.

School applications can be made online or you can download a paper form to apply but whichever way you choose, you must apply within the specified window.

All applications must be received between September and 15th January 2019.

Please see the following link with details on how to apply:

[http://www.southend.gov.uk/info/200176/school\\_admissions/46/primary\\_school\\_admissions](http://www.southend.gov.uk/info/200176/school_admissions/46/primary_school_admissions)



## Checking Your Childs Sight

Unfortunately a child's eyesight is only normally checked if parents or professionals involved with the child suspect a problem.

The following article is interesting food for thought:

<https://www.daynurseries.co.uk/news/article.cfm/id/1599426/Parents-urged-to-book>

Also included below is a link from the NHS website giving a breakdown of the tests given and ages:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/eye-tests-in-children/>



## QUOTE CORNER— YAY for MESSY PLAY!

At Trinket Box we play with a host of different resources giving the children the full experience of sensory play. They do wear aprons but in practice sometimes clothes get a bit messy/wet! Children invariably wash their sleeves as well as their hands or take the apron off with messy hands before they wash them.....we are quick but we only have one pair of hands!

Spare clothing in your child's bag will help us if we need to change them.

## Fire Safety— Are You Prepared at Home?

No-one wants to think of the scenario of a fire at home but are you prepared ?

We focus on the sound of our very loud alarm and our evacuation process and this is practised regularly in case this situation ever arises. We can evacuate the building very quickly but this is due to rehearsal!



At home do you have an evacuation plan? Does everyone in your household know what they should do in the event of a fire? It sounds a bit over the top but actually a plan could be a lifesaver. Fire spreads at a staggering rate and even just the fumes can be fatal.

Natalie and Annabel are Fire Marshalls and head Trinket Box Fire Safety. The training received by them always hits home how important educating the children is regarding fire evacuation and staying safe.

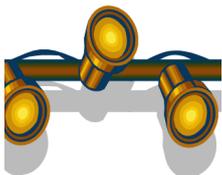
One thing that not many families know is that they can access a free fire safety home visit. The Fire service will then advise you where the best place to put smoke alarms are and other aspects relating to fire safety and evacuation.

Please use the following link to book this:

[http://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/Home\\_Fire\\_Safety/Home\\_Safety\\_Visit\\_Form/](http://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/Home_Fire_Safety/Home_Safety_Visit_Form/)

On their website there are 10 tips for home safety as follows:

1. Make sure you have smoke alarms on every floor of your home
2. Smoke alarms save lives, but only if they are working. Please test smoke alarms regularly.
3. Take extra care in the kitchen and never leave cooking unattended
4. Never, ever use a chip pan or any other pan filled with hot oil
5. Don't overload electric sockets- most can only take a maximum of 13 amps
6. Keep matches and lighters away from children
7. Keep clothes well away from heaters and open fires
8. Put out cigarettes properly and dispose of them carefully
9. Don't charge things like mobile phones, tablets or e-cigs overnight, or longer than the recommended charging time
10. Plan an escape route and make sure everyone in the house knows how to get out in the event of a fire.



## Staff Members of the Month



If you feel that a member of staff has gone over and above the norm please nominate them for 'Staff Member of the Month'.

The Committee takes into consideration all the nominations and then awards two staff members with the title. Your input DOES count. ALL nominations are read and shared. Nominations can be made using the nomination slips in the foyer, or by email to [annabel@thetrinket.org.uk](mailto:annabel@thetrinket.org.uk) or [natalie@thetrinket.org.uk](mailto:natalie@thetrinket.org.uk).

The last staff members selected were Michelle and Kealey.

**Well done to them but we hope you all agree that we have a fabulous team!**

## Trinket Box FAQs

Check out our FAQs below regarding some commonly asked questions:

- **How do I increase my child's sessions?** All sessions are subject to availability so if you are planning to increase your child's sessions from the following term please let Annabel know. She will check availability and confirm whether these are available the half term before the requested change date.
- **How do I know how my child is progressing?** We try and feedback as often as we can but our more in depth feedback is given at parents evenings (Nov and June) and through our reports (Dec and July). If you feel that there is an issue with anything please speak to Annabel
- **How does the funding work?** 2 year funding (parents on a low income) and 3 year funding (available for all parents) is available the term after your child's 2nd or 3rd birthday.
- **What is a Tax Free Childcare Account?** This is a new account where you pay in £8 and the government pay in £2 for qualifying parents. Please see the following link for more information: <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>
- **Do I qualify for 30 hours funding?** If you are working parents please check your eligibility via the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare?step-by-step-nav=f517cd57-3c18-4bb9-aa8b-1b907e279bf9>
- **Can I swap sessions within the week or vary my child's attendance times?** We regret we cannot swap sessions as this facility would have to be offered to all parents and physically due to staff to child ratios we cannot do this. Our sessions times are not flexible but please speak to Annabel if you have a one off situation.
- **Do I need to provide nappies, wipes and spare clothes?** YES! We DON'T supply nappies. We have some spare clothes to borrow but these may not be to your taste. PLEASE return these, should you borrow them.
- **What happens if I forget my child's lunch?** You can buy a school packed lunch on the morning your child attends. This will be payable in cash and is £1.50. Choice is ham, cheese or tuna sandwich with a piece of fruit and a yogurt. On Greenways inset days these are not available.

## Committee Focus—Welcome New Members!



As time passes and children leave, the Trinket Box Management Committee changes. It's not a bad thing as it keeps everything fresh but it is incredibly hard through periods of transition as experienced members leave and new ones are learning how we operate.

We have a fabulous committee who work tirelessly to provide for the children. Some of them have children here now, some have children who have left and others have children on our waiting list.

We have pleasure in advising of three new prospective members who are Katie Gleaves, Kim Durrirt and Kevin Lockhart. They are currently going through the rigorous checking process required to be a committee member, director and charity trustee.

Our current members are Bobbie Perry (Chair), Karen Wilson (Treasurer), Gemma Samuels (Secretary), Martin Herron (Nominated Person for Ofsted), Michelle Glencross, Sonia Irvin and Nicola O'Connor.

Thank you to all Committee members for all the work you do to support the pre school. It is a voluntary role but a very rewarding one!

