



Smiz Kid¹ New¹

Smiz Kids 511 Newsletter

Summer 2005



It's been a while!

Dear Parents,
Sorry it has been so long since our last newsletter was published, but we have been waiting for two reasons.

One we wanted to be able to publish our new and most recent successful OFSTED report and secondly we were waiting for our new branding and

logos in order to publish the next newsletter in the new format with our new logo. We hope you'll agree that was worth the wait.

As it has been quite a while since our last issue this one will contain lots of info that will take us up to September 2005. Some of the news will therefore be a little dated but is still relevant for you to read

and be aware of.

We hope you find this newsletter interesting to read and hopefully you may give us some feedback as to what you thought.

If anyone has anything they would like to put in the next newsletter, please let me know.

Enjoy your read, *Nikki*



New Faces



Welcome to some new faces in the club.

Key

SK/AS=After School Club
SK/HC=Holiday Club



Ofsted sneaked in and sneaked out again....

We were notified in November that Ofsted will be coming to make a Care inspection of both the Nursery and Smiz Kids 511 between January and March 2005. This was really good news for us as it was the first inspection since the change of ownership of the Nursery. We asked some of the parents to complete Questionnaires that were sent out by OfSTED prior to inspection and we would like to thank all those who completed them for taking the time to give their opinion of the Nursery.

We have now printed a number of reports for anyone that wishes to read them. Please ask a member of staff for a copy of the report to borrow. Alternatively

they are freely available on the OfSTED website www.ofsted.gov.uk.

If you go to the website and select reports at the top and use the search function on the left and search for LE65 2TY you will find the reports for both the Nursery and Smiz Kids 511 appear at the top of the list.

Information that is not contained in the report but which was imparted to us by the inspectors makes interesting reading.

The inspector for the Out of School club struggled to find anything wrong. She commented that in 20 years of inspection she had rarely found an Out of School Club that was as good as ours. She also said that she had never given top marks in all 14 standards before and we

were the first.

Finally, we would like to thank all of the staff for all their hard work in making these OfSTED reports the best that the organisation has ever achieved. Without their hard work and dedication to the children this place could never be as good as it is.

Can we improve on our OfSTED reports?

We would like to think so, despite the glowing reports. Therefore, we are going to try and make it the best we can with the help of a very dedicated team of staff and a fantastic bunch of kids who make the club what it is.

Should you need further information about the reports please do not hesitate to speak to a senior member of staff.

Jan

Nicholas Williams SK/AS

Feb

Thomas Woodward SK/HC
Martha Kent SK/HC

March

Caitlin Allen SK/HC
Joshua Allen SK/HC
Jack Brierly SK/HC
Lewis Brierly SK/HC

April

Adam Walster SK/AS

May

Jenny Hill SK/HC
Samantha Hill SK/HC
Elliott Pearson SK/HC
Nathan Pearson SK/HC
Emily Russell SK/AS

Welcome to you all

Fees

Since July 1st 2004 we have invested a lot in the Out of School club in both terms of equipment and staff. On average our costs have risen by over 8.5% this year and with the rise in the National Minimum wage due in October of this year, our commitment to keep all of our permanent staff above the National minimum wage when we do our salary review this summer, we have calculated that our fees will have to increase by an average of 5.7% overall.

We have endeavoured to keep the increase to a minimum but we cannot avoid passing on some of

the increased costs in the fees.

We hope you understand this but should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to speak to either Ian or Sheila.

From July 1st 2005	
Description	Price
After School Daily	£9.50
After School Weekly	£45.00
Holiday Club Daily	£26.50
Holiday Club Weekly	£120.00
Holiday Club Half Day	£16.00
Holiday Club Half Day Weekly	£77.00
Extra Hour	£6.50

New Faces (Or is it Opportunity Knocks?)

Feb 2005

Cassie Fox joins us from 7th Feb as our new Playworker at Smiz Kids. 2.30 pm – 6 pm Mon – Fri. Cassie was just joining the Nursery as her sister (Katie Phillips) was leaving to have her baby.

April 2005

Liz Abell joined us at Smiz Kids as our new After School & Holiday club Co-ordinator to replace Sandy. Liz has 6 years experience of running out of school clubs. Liz is obviously new to the team but is settling in well and has lots of new ideas for the forthcoming clubs. She particularly enjoys the craft activities and the children have responded well to her.

The Club in May/June will be the first that she has planned and then run herself which has given her time to settle in to the nursery routine & work within various rooms mixing with the staff to see how we operate as a

team. This has also been a nice short club to plan before she has to think about planning the Summer Club which is harder to do as it runs for 7 weeks this year and takes a lot of planning and co-ordination as there are usually trips involved. Liz has some the planning in place already, and the rest of the planning should be finished by the 10th June and the booklets will be sent out that weekend.

Sandy has taken on the role of Acting Deputy Officer in Charge and Head of Baby Room full-time during Katie's maternity leave.

March 2005

Stuart Birt joined us as a playworker for the Holiday clubs. He started his time with us at the Easter Club. He is 20 years old and very sports orientated, which makes him ideal for the post and he will work well alongside Liz. He presently works with a variety of children's groups and is qualified as a coach in Volleyball,

Basketball, Soccer & swimming Coach as well as being a qualified First Aider and trained in Child Protection.

He was a definite hit with the children at the last club. He likes organising lots of group games indoors and out. We have purchased a lot of new sports equipment, so we have all sorts to keep him busy, from Footballs to Quick Cricket, Table Tennis, Pool, Indoor Hockey, Tennis, Badminton, Tag Rugby, Athletics, Rounders, skipping ropes.....

You name it - we have probably got it now!

Cassie is looking to move into the nursery at some point to work in the baby room and we will be recruiting her replacement shortly.

If anyone knows somebody who is looking for a job as a playworker then please give their details to Liz and we will send them an application form.

For Sale!

Many of the children in the Out of School Club were involved in the rebranding process. They helped us to choose the logos and colours and gave us heaps of feedback.

When we got the first samples of the embroidery for the staff uniform the kids said that it was so cool that they thought it would look great on a sweatshirt or a cap.

We have now had some French Navy sweatshirts embroidered up with the Smiz Kids Logo available in two sizes, 7/8 and 9/10.

We also have some kids French Navy baseball caps with the same logo on.



The prices are £13.00 per sweatshirt and £4.00 per Baseball Cap.

These prices are the actual prices we pay for the items, and we are not on commission either! We just want to sell them at cost for the club members that want to have one.

If you would like to see the Sweatshirts or Baseball Caps please ask a staff member to point them out to you.



Fund Raising

A big thank you has to go to all parents and children involved in raising money for The Children's Society, Children in Need, Tsunami appeal & Comic Relief.

- The Cringle Service at the church raised £211.32
- We raised £148.00 for the Tsunami Appeal
- We raised £106.89 for Children in Need
- We raised £80.46 for Comic relief

Some of the events raised a bit of a giggle, with the staff having to wear their pyjamas for Children in Need and their old school uniforms, some of which were very old, for the



Tsunami appeal and the children were all dressed



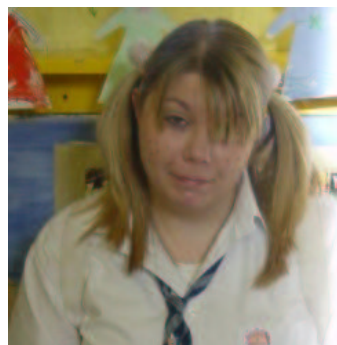
in blue and white.

For Comic Relief we ran a 'Miss Hoolie' Competition for the children to design her a new hair do. There was a winner for each age group, they were; Caitlin Walters for the baby room, Harry Redfern-Smith for the toddlers & Ellie Taylor for the pre-school room. All the winners received an Easter egg. Well done everyone who took part there were some great entries!

Race for life.

A lot of the staff are taking part in the Race for Life, on Sunday July 10th at Western Park, Leics. They will be taken part as a

group, they will be calling themselves the 'Smisbybusybees' & have had their own T-shirts printed. If anyone is willing to sponsor the group for their efforts it would be much appreciated. Please see Jessica Smith (Toddler Room) who is taking charge of their entry. GO GIRLS!



Goodbye!



We are sad to say goodbye to Ellie & Evie Smith as they are going to live in Rugby.

Sophie & Katie Williamson will be leaving at the end of June as they will be moving to Northampton.

Good Luck everyone!



George Marshall (pictured above) may be leaving the After School Club at the end of the summer holidays as he will be moving up to the Ivanhoe school in September. George is our longest serving Smiz Kid as he has been with us throughout his nursery years from the age of 9 months old. (All together now - Aaaahhh!)

We hope to see George still use the club occasionally and in the Holiday clubs though!

Good luck George we wish you well.

We tied him up, and beat a confession out of him before he left about how good the club really is - you can read it on the next page!

Dates to put in your diary and then forget!

Bank Holidays

We will be closed on the following dates

Monday 30th May.

Monday 29th August

Next Smiz Kids Club

Tuesday 31st May to Friday 3rd June

Smiz Kids summer holiday Club

Monday 18th July to Friday 2nd September

Sara Sets Sail

For those of you who knew Sara, the previous owner of the nursery, she has now

flown over to Crete on 4th May to start her new life with her husband and children in sunnier climes.

We would like to wish her, and her family, well and every success in their new adventure.

Birthday's



Birthday's come but once a year, so here we take time to congratulate all those who will be celebrating a birthday this time of year. Happy Birthday everyone!

Children

Courtney Prince 2/3/99
Harriet McKenzie 8/3/99
Dominic Moore 10/3/97
Sam Higgot 23/3/97
Stephanie Treadwell 23/3/94
Thomas Woodward 3/4/00
Samantha Hill 4/4/00

Judith Vos 22/4/96
Charlotte Whittle 22/4/98
Rebecca Whittle 22/4/98
Martha Kent 24/4/00
Ross Parnham 27/4/95
Caitlin Allen 29/4/96
Ellis Brooks 3/5/97
Jack Brierly 14/5/99
Jennifer Hill 18/5/98
Lizzie Bee 24/5/98
Jonah Luckett 29/5/98
Ben Higgot 30/5/94
Joe Brooks 5/6/95
Kate Wills 5/6/94
Amanda Vos 10/6/94
Hanna Price 15/6/95

Lewis Norman 21/6/93
Sophie Williamson 28/6/97
Katie Williamson 29/6/97
Nicholas Williams 1/7/95
Emily Russell 14/7/00
Glenn Higginbotham 21/7/94
Laura Higginbotham 4/8/95
Edward Willis 8/8/97
Lydia Pepper 09/08/2000
Amelia D-Ferry 24/8/95

Staff

Rachael 8/6/??
Charlie 9/6/??
Stuart 6/7/??
Lizzie 24/7/??

Joke Korner



Q. How do you keep an idiot waiting?

A. I'll tell you in the next news letter!

By Katie Williamson

Q. What do you get when you cross a sheep with a Kangaroo?

A. A woolly jumper.

By Sophie Williamson

Q. Why did the one handed Skeleton cross the road?

A. To get to the second hand shop

By Laura Higginbotham

Kids Kompetition!

Right listen up kids! It's Competition Time!

As you all had so much input into the process of helping us choose new logo's for the bus and Smiz Kids 511 you had better think of a name for our newest member of staff - the boy in the logo!

There is a limit of two entries for each child who uses the After School Club or Holiday Club between 1st June 2005 and 2nd September 2005. The closing date is the last day of the holiday club on Friday 2nd September 2005.



The winning entry will be chosen by a panel of 3 (Who they are will remain a secret so you don't try and bribe them with sweets!)

The entry forms are

available from any member of staff in the Out of School Club.

In the event that more than one child chooses the same name then one winner will be chosen at random by a panel member and the others will all receive consolation prizes.

The winner will get a great prize of a Book Voucher worth £20! We have to say books because otherwise we know you lot would spend it all on sweets and Ice Cream if you could. - Who says we don't know you lot really well!

So get your thinking caps on and get scribbling.

If you don't enter you will never win!

Job Slot!

Do you know anyone who is either a qualified playworker, wants to be one, or who has experience of working with children aged 5 to 11 and would like a part time afternoons job five days a week?

The nursery is looking for a general handyman who can turn their hand to most things, to work one or two days a week at hours to suit, to do all those little, and not so little, jobs that never get done in time - like fixing a dripping tap, gluing a chair or painting a window. If you know of anyone who is retired or semi retired and looking for a job that suits themselves?

If you know anyone who would be interested in either position then please let us know, give them our phone number or ask Nikki, Ian or Sheila for an application form.

George's Confession - extracted 25th May 2005!

Hello,
My name is george marshall and I have been at smisby day nursery since I was under a year old. I am now 11 and a ½ and go to the after school club, it is great fun and I really enjoy it.
George Marshall

We WILL make them enjoy themselves!