

**1st HALF SUMMER TERM 2017**

Registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation No. 1162825

**Rising 5’s**

Rising 5’s is an extra session for a small group of children that are due to start school in September, the aim is to help them become more independent and ready for school, focusing on phonics, numbers, problem solving and much more. There will be 12 spaces available and it will be run in an afternoon session, the session will run for 5 weeks after the May half term. The session is £6 and is for an hour and a half. We are currently in talks with Stoke Climsland School to make sure our Rising 5 sessions do not clash with any school visits. Times and dates will be confirmed in this coming half term, if you are interested in your child having a space please speak to Nic or Karen.

**Toys from home...**

**Recently we have had lots of toys from home brought into Pre-School, we appreciate that some children have comforters, which maybe toys. However lately we have had lots of toys that have been bought in go missing or broken. Please could you try and encourage your child to leave their toys at home as we do not want them to get lost or broken. Thank you**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

* **Wednesday 19th April –** Return after Easter
* **Monday 1st May –** CLOSEDBank Holiday
* **Tuesday 9th May –** Parents Evening 6pm -8pm
* **W/C Monday 29th May –** Half term
* **Sunday 2nd July –** Sports Day – Stoke Climsland School Field 1pm - 4pm
* **Saturday 8th July –** Stoke Climsland School Summer Fair
* **Saturday 22nd July –** Summer Fete/Garden Party at Ducklings Pre-school (time TBC)
* **Tuesday 25th July –** Last day of term, Leavers presentation and party day!

**Online Safeguarding for Under 5’s**

Online safety for children is all of our responsibility, but we would like to offer some useful websites that will help you to keep your child safe online. If you need help with online parental controls or require more information on gaming, these websites will hopefully help you: [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

We have included a useful hand out if you wish to read it.

**SEPTEMBERS OPENING HOURS**

From September 2017, we will be increasing our opening hours. The new hours will be as follows:

**Monday – Friday 8.45am - 2.45pm.**

Please speak to Nic or Karen if you would like to increase your hours in September.

**30 HOURS FUNDING**

As of September 2017 some parents will be eligible for 30 hours funding, to find out more information regarding eligibility please use the website: [www.childcarechioces.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechioces.gov.uk)

**Invoices**

Please find attached your invoice for this half term; payment within the first week would be appreciated. Please speak to Nic or Karen if you require any session changes. Thank you

 **Increase in fees.**

As of Wednesday 19th April the new fees increase will apply. The new rate for two year olds will be £4.75 per hour and for three and four year olds it will be £4.00 per hour. We feel that these changes are necessary due to increases in our costs, most notably in wages costs due to the recent introduction of the National Living Wage and Workplace Pensions.

We hope you agree these are still competitive rates which continue to offer you value for money for the service we provide.

**WELCOME BACK...**

We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break and are looking forward to another busy term ahead. We have a few new families joining us this term, so we would like you to help us make them feel welcome at Ducklings.

All the Ducklings team would like to thank you all for your continued support, Ducklings would not be what it is today without you all.