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Winter 2011

WELCOME 



to my Childminding Newsletter. I plan to use this Newsletter to keep Parents informed about my childcare service and provide details of monthly themes, activities, holidays, children's birthdays and general reminders.



HOORAY FOR WINTER



Winter has arrived, the children and I are once again hoping that the snow arrives soon, so that we can ride the sledge and build our special snowmen friends!



OFSTED INSPECTION

I want to take this opportunity to thank all my parents and your amazing children for your help & support in my recent Ofsted inspection when I was graded 'OUTSTANDING' for the second consecutive time. I couldn't have achieved this success without your support and the company of your talented children.



TRAINING & POLICIES

I have now completed the annual review of my policies and procedures. There are no major changes.

WOW! MOMENTS

I have been very pleased to see the children's reactions to their WOW Cards on the boards. They really enjoy sharing these with the other children. Please keep them coming.

WEBSITE

Don't forget to regularly check out my website for any new photographs: www.helenmelvinschildcare.co.uk

THEMES

DECEMBER – Winter & Christmas

The children are busy planning their Christmas Crafts and I'm sure that they can't wait to show you. We will be making our own Christmas tree collages, snow-flakes and cards.



JANUARY – Chinese New Year

The New Year is the most important of all the Chinese holidays, and starts on the 23rd Jan. Next Year will be the Year of the Dragon. The children will be making Chinese craft activities, watching their dragons dance, dress up in Chinese costume and trying out simple Chinese food.



FEBRUARY – Animals

The children will be looking at the different types of animals – their similarities and differences, where they live, how we look after our pets and the importance of understanding why we need to show care and concern for animals together with their different environments.



VACANCIES

Sorry, I have no vacancies at present...



WELLIES & RAINCOATS!

Can all children please bring raincoats & wellies suitable for our changing weather. The muddy puddles are just too tempting to resist and we end up with soggy feet! Especially as we enjoy playing outside and hunting for leaves and treasure in all weathers!



WELCOME!



'E' and 'J' have settled in very well. 'O's' little sister 'G' will also be joining us in February and the other children are all looking forward to sharing their toys with her.



SHOW AND TELL!

If your child wants to bring anything from home to complement any of our themes or just to show, then please encourage them to do so.



HIP, HIP HOORAY IT'S MY BIRTHDAY

'O' : 15th January



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 20th Dec: Hanukkah
- 25th Dec: Christmas Day
- 23rd Jan: Chinese New Year
- Schools Finish: 20th Dec
- Schools Return: 5th Jan

My last working day before Christmas
Thurs 22nd Dec

Back to work
Tues 3rd Jan



PIZZA (prep 10 mins, COOK 5-10 mins for pitta/naan base or 15-20 for mix)
You will need: Mini pitta/naan bread as the pizza base (or make up your own base using the pizza mix), tomato puree, mixed herbs, grated cheese.
Toppings: peppers/mushrooms/sweetcorn/pineapple/tuna/cooked ham or chicken.

METHOD: Be creative with the pizza – try a star/triangle or a wheel shape! If using a mix follow the instructions on the packet to make the dough, mould into shape, spread tomato puree thinly over the pizza base, sprinkle with herbs, cover with grated cheese & then let your child decorate with whatever toppings they like, bake on a tray in a pre-heated oven until golden brown. Eat hot or cold. Yummy & simple!

AND FINALLY.....

If you are celebrating something special like a birthday, a family event, a festival, or your child's special **WOW!** moment, and you would like to share it with me and the rest of the other children, then please let me know



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