



Climbing Bears of Wisborough Green:
An 'OUTSTANDING' Pre-school (Ofsted July 2009)
and voted 'Best Community Pre-school'
(West Sussex County Times 2009.)

Well, what a great few months it has been for Climbing Bears Pre-school! On a hot, sunny July morning this summer Climbing Bears was visited by Her Majesty's Inspectors unannounced! Unlike schools, pre-schools get no warning that the inspectors are arriving! The inspector stayed for the whole session watching and questioning the staff team and Manager at great lengths as well as talking to the children and parents. The inspector concluded that she judged the setting to be 'Outstanding' in its provision of early years' care, the highest judgement that can be awarded. Everyone at Climbing Bears was thrilled to have their hard work and dedication to the families and children in their care recognised!

In September the Pre-school held its AGM which was well attended. The new officers in charge of the Committee are Mrs Carole Linton and Mrs Alice Leighton who are taking on the role of Joint Chair. During the evening other roles were filled to ensure that the setting continued to have a solid team of volunteer parents in the form of a Committee to support the Manager and staff team in their work.

However, things got even better with Climbing Bears being awarded 'Best Community Pre-school' at the recent West Sussex County Times Community Awards Ceremony. This award was voted for by parents and supporters of the pre-school. The staff team would like to take this opportunity to say a huge 'Thank You' to everyone who has supported us and our work over the past few years. This award means so much to all of us!

Buoyed by the 'Outstanding' Ofsted and the new Committee team, the new term at Climbing Bears has been going well. We have welcomed many new families into the Climbing Bears community which has meant that from January the setting will be full. The staff team, parents and children are looking forward to seeing 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' in October, travelling by coach to the Capitol Theatre in Horsham.

The Committee hopes to be able to provide an update of information to the village regarding the replacement of the old building with our lovely new one!! Sadly, the delays have been due to WSCC introducing very recent amendments in their Capital Grant Scheme despite the fact that the Climbing Bears application for funds was submitted in February 2009.

But, the fundraising continues as Climbing Bears is a charity. Therefore you are warmly invited to the Climbing Bears Christmas Market being held on 27th November from 3-7pm at the Scout Hut. There you will find many stalls with tempting treats as well as a raffle, tea, coffee and cakes. We all look forward to seeing you there!

Clare Steere, Manager
Alice Leighton, Chair
Carole Linton, Chair