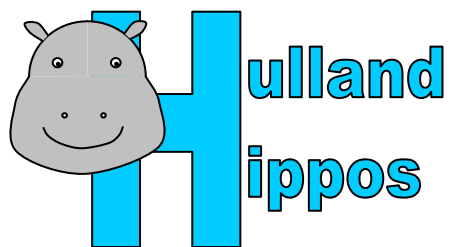


2017 Summer Newsletter



Dear All,

The Hippo Team

We have had some changes to the Hippo team recently. Brenda, Dorothy, Arline and Carol have retired and we thank them so much for giving their time, enthusiasm and talents to Hippos. We are missing them as I am sure you are. We welcome Doreen and Rosie onto the team. Carol will kindly continue as our Treasurer for the time being.

Hot Drinks Safety

With the increase in the number of families coming to Hippos we have been discussing ways of ensuring safety with hot drinks when toddlers are buzzing around. So we will be trying out mugs with lids etc. and getting your feedback.

'Borrow a Book' We have built up a good supply of great books for babies and young children with the aim of lending them to families to take home and return the next time they come to Hippos, as well as enjoying them at Hippos. All you need to do is choose any book at any point during the morning and fill in the 'Borrowing and Returning Record'. There are Hippo folders to transport books in. The occasional damage to a book that is bound to happen will not worry us.

Children's Snacks

You will have noticed a change in the snacks we provide for the children as we are currently trying the snacks recommended by the Government for 1 - 5 year olds. We have adopted a Hippos Healthy Snack Policy. This will be on the counter or you can find it at www.hullandchurches.org.uk /Families and Children. Biscuits will be available as usual for adults needing an energy boost. After 11.00am the snacks will not be refreshed but do ask for a drink at any time. Treats for all will be provided on special occasions and celebrations as before – we don't want to be kill joys!

Holiday Hippos: At half term, Wednesday 31st May, and during the summer holidays we will continue with normal session times i.e.10.00-11.30 am. However older children, ex-Hippos especially and siblings are welcome and suitable activities will be provided for them.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 24th May: Phoenix **greetings cards on sale** at Hippos. 10% takings is donated to Hippos.

Sunday 16th July: **Family Fun Day** at Carsington Water organised by Hulland Churches

Friday 25th – Monday 28th August: **Hulland Church Flower Festival**, the theme this year is *For All the Saints*. Hulland Hippos have been invited to do a display on St George and the Dragon.

Saturday 27th August: **Hulland & District Horticultural & Craft Show** in Hulland Ward Millennium Hall. The children will have the opportunity to make pictures & models at Hippos that they could enter in the Show.

Forthcoming Hulland Church All-Age services, especially suitable for families:

Sunday 4th June, Sunday 2nd July and Sunday 6th August. All at 9.00 a.m.

Leavers: We know that there will be some children needing to leave Hippos at the end of the summer to go on to the next stage of their education. We really appreciate knowing in advance so please let us know when your child is soon to leave so we can wish them well. Also we can ensure that you, as Mum /Dad/ carer, know you are very welcome to pop in to see us and have a coffee at any Hippos session. If you are looking for a good Pre-school for your child we can recommend Hulland Community Pre-School. If you are interested in a place for September 2017 the Pre-School need to know now.

Best wishes from the Hippo Team

Penny, Katrina, Hil, Pauline, Carol, Rosie & Doreen