

Getting to know…..Kate

**Tell us a little bit about the road you have travelled so far that has led you to working at Little Star Nursery….**

*Fantastic 3 years at Exeter university which gave me an English degree but no idea of what I wanted to do. Returned back home (to Farrington Gurney) and fell into a management trainee job with a book printers working with publishers. This led me to a year in New York (great experience but I’m a country girl through and through!).*

*Married, children….after having my second child I took a very opportune voluntary redundancy and then thought “what now?”. I know…I like children and wanted to be at home with mine (who were 1 and 4 yrs at that time). Did that for 2 years…liked that, tool a level 3 childcare qualification and then Lydia approached me to see if I wanted to take on a run down, unused Methodist school rooms and turn it into a nursery….and so we did! Carried on to take my Early Years degree and 1/3 of a masters (which one day I will complete!) and here we are now…8 years later.*

**What is your principle motivation for working with children?**

*To be able to be creative, to be allowed to be silly and sing as much as I want ☺ To think I’ve made a difference and to give love and to have it returned…unconditionally.*

**What can we usually find you doing on a Saturday afternoon?**

*Attempting to find something that involves the whole family..but increasingly failing with an 11 yr old son (who mostly wants to be lighting fires, climbing trees or kicking a football) and 14 yr old daughter (who mostly wants to go shopping) (unless it involves heading off for a weekend at the coast)****.*** *Failing that, walking the dogs….or at the computer working!*

**How do you relax?**

*Yoga, walking, entertaining with friends over a couple of glasses of something sparkly ☺*

**Who is your hero?**

*Michael Rosen. He is an inspiring ambassador for children and what childhood should look like. I read his Facebook page and blog and share his disbelief and despair about what education has become. He should be Prime Minister or at the very least Education Secretary.*

**What would your desert Island luxury be and who (other than your family) would you want to be marooned with?**

*I can live easily without luxuries but a glass or two of prosecco would be nice…as long as there was enough fresh drinking water as well and some good company to share it with someone funny but who wouldn’t annoy me after too long…maybe Dawn French?*

**Are you a camper or a glamper?**

*Definitely camper****.***

**What’s your earliest childhood memory?**

*Being read ‘John Dory’ stories by my dad while we waited in shops for my older sister and mum to do clothes shopping. I always thought they were “real” stories and would ask dad to tell me the one about “the time John Dory when on such and such adventure”…only to discover years later that (a. John Dory is a fish and b. My dad just made them up on the spot and so couldn’t remember the ones I requested!)*

**Sandcastles or snowmen?**

*Without question sandcastles*

**And your final words of wisdom……?**

*“Keep on trying!”*