

## Darren Lee's hints on a successful party

- 1) It is easier to provide some of the food that comes in packages, eg. Crisps , cheeselets and biscuits, then if the children do not consume all the food, you can at least store it for later use. Also hot dogs and pizza are a favourite with children.
- 2) Ideally, drinks should be in a cartons, with a straw to minimise spillage. If you intend to sit the children on a carpeted floor then use a colourful but waterproofed table cloth.
- 3) Include with the invitations a simple check-slip for parents to let you know whether or not their child has a nut or other allergy; also ask if he/she is vegetarian.
- 4) Please do not distribute food and drink during the show, it is discourteous to the performer and the children, also , the children will not be able to participate while clutching lollipops, ice cream or drinks.
- 5) Do not invite more children than you can comfortably cope with, a wide range is also asking for trouble unless you have a number of helpers.
- 6) Secure balloon to the outside the party venue as a colourful beacon for lost parents.
- 7) Some halls are uncarpeted and create a rather “cold” ambience , As you know , group laughter and enjoyment is very infectious. This is especially so when children feel secure and comfortable. You can easily achieve this “feel – good” by grouping them tightly together and sitting them on some soft matting or a rug during the show.
- 8) Normally, it will not matter if children have seen “Darren Lee” before at another party, in fact , it helps ! Children like the familiar and often tell their mummy afterwards that they would like the “same magic man” for their party.
- 9) Babies and toddlers should be in the care of adults during the show.
- 10) Please do not distribute squeakers, whistles, balloons, etc before the performance, it only takes a few noisy children to spoil the enjoyment of the majority.
- 11) Adults are welcome to watch the show – they will enjoy it much as the children ! However, they should be asked not to spoil the children's enjoyment with their own conversations ( adults talking during the performance are a major problem that can so easily impair the magic show for the children - ask any entertainer in the world and they will agree that this is a major difficulty ! ).
- 12) In case of emergencies, Darren carries his mobile phone with him, Tel 07557685861., if the party is not being held at your home, it is also helpful if he also has your mobile and number or the venue telephone number.
- 13) Mention on your Invitations that you have booked a magical entertainer. Then, no child will not be late !.
- 14) Please feel free to contact Darren if you are unsure of any aspect of the party.

## **Check List**

### **Four weeks ahead**

- 1, Make a list of children to invite.**
- 2, Send invitations.**
- 3, Check to see if any children have any food allergies.**
- 4, Start thinking about what food to buy in or make.**
- 5, what kind of cake to buy or make.**
- 6, Do you need anyone to help.**
- 7, Thank you cards.**
- 8, Room hire if party is not being held at home.**

### **one week ahead**

- 1, Phone the parents who haven't replied.**
- 2, Has the Birthday cake been made or bought.**
- 3, Name Labels.**
- 4, Paper and pen to write parent's phone details in case of emergencies.**
- 5, Cloths / paper napkins / paper plates / paper cups or drink cartons.**
- 6, candles / matches**
- 7, Kitchen roll / rubbish bags / wet wipes.**
- 8, Confirm room hire.**

### **Day before**

- 1, Fill the going home bags.**
- 2, Has all the food been bought or made.**
- 3, Make sure you have a Cake knife.**

### **Party Day**

- 1, Are there balloons on the front door or gate.**
- 2, If the party is being held at home try to remove as much furniture as possible also anything breakable.**
- 3, Are any pets shut away safely.**

### **Birthday day**

**Try and keep the mood calm and relaxed before the party, as it's easy for the Birthday child's big day to be spoilt by becoming over excited and then tearful, especially if there are young if this does happen try to keep smiling it will pass.**