



Newsletter

We would like to say a huge welcome to all our new children and their families to our pre-school family. All the new children have settled in brilliantly! They have spent a lot of time exploring the setting, getting to know everyone and learning our pre-school rules and routines.



Term 3:

Our Term 3 was all about celebrations! We started with learning about Halloween and Bonfire Night. Then, we went international and explored Diwali, the Hindu festival of light. We are very thankful to Deepthi, our new member of staff, who was sharing with the children her knowledge and personal experience about this festival. Our show-and-tell with Deepthi was a special treat!

However, most of the time we spent preparing for Christmas celebrations and our traditional Nativity play. All the children were very involved in learning the Nativity story and our Christmas songs. We hope that everyone agrees all the children were amazing on the day!

We also took part in the Road Safety Week (20th – 24th November) and learned first-hand about how to keep us safe on the road during our daily walks to the church.

Term 4:

We are already in the middle of Term 4 and our core theme is Amazing Animals! This term we are learning about woodland animals in winter, polar animals and animals around the world.

We are focusing on winter season and the changes it brings to the nature around us.

Our main stories to explore are 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', 'Polar Bear, Polar Bear What Do You Hear?', 'Dear Zoo', 'Gruffalo' and 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.

We also plan to hold two international days – Scottish Day and Australian Day – and we would love you to take a part in this. If you have any connections with either Scotland or Australia and would be willing to do a short 'show-and-tell' sessions with the children, please let us know. That would be a very memorable experience for all the children on the day.

Last week of Term 4 will be all about Chinese New Year and Valentines Day! This year we are lucky to have Sonia with us who knows a lot about Chinese culture, and we cannot wait to learn about it from her. We plan to celebrate Valentines on week commencing 5th of February and we'd like to invite the children to dress up in something pink or red for this week! The fundraising team is also organising a Valentine's cake sale. For more information, please check the fundraising section.

Term 5:

Main themes to explore will be 'On the Farm', 'Spring' and 'Easter'.

Working with parents:

Our first **parent and key person** evenings held in December were a great success! Thank you to all who found time to meet with us and discuss your children's progress and learning. If you still haven't had a chance to meet with your child's key person, please let us know and we will arrange it. We will plan our second parent and key-person meetings for March.

Our weekly **Woodland Walks** require higher adult: child ratios so we are looking for parents to come along and help us to supervise children. If you can help, please let us know. The sign-up sheet is on the white board by the entrance door.



This term we would like to re-introduce our **parents-helpers rotas**. Helping at the pre-school enables parents/carers to see what the day-to-day life of the Pre-school is like and to join in helping the children to get the best out of their activities. Parent helpers play a vital role in supporting the staff. A parent helper may be any adult representative (16 years or above) from the family (e.g. dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles etc.). Once your child has been with us for their first six weeks, you may add your name to the parent rota. We feel it is very important to offer a high ratio of adults to children. Unfortunately, siblings or other children are not able to attend sessions whilst the parent/carer is helping.

Oral Health and Healthy Smiles accreditation:

We are proud to announce that we completed all our tasks for Healthy Smiles accreditation and now we are waiting to get the certificate. Thank you for all your support during our re-accreditation process. Please help us to continue being a setting that actively supports oral health of all our children by avoiding putting sugary foods in your child's lunch box. For more ideas, please follow the link <https://www.communitydentalservices.co.uk/oral-health-improvement/family-fun-information/>



WhatsApp Community Group coming soon!



In our efforts to keep you informed about our daily preschool life and events, alongside our Facebook group and Tapestry, we have decided to create a WhatsApp preschool community group. The purpose of the group is to give you instant and short announcements and updates. It will be a one way communication from the preschool to you. To communicate with us, you will still have to give us a call or send an email. The invites to join the group will be sent out soon.

Management committee:

Our next management committee meeting will be held on the 29th of February at 8 pm via Microsoft Teams. All parents are welcome. Please let us know if you would like to attend the meeting so that we can send you an invite.

Reminders

Invoices

Please check the payment due dates for our Term 4 invoice and pay as soon as possible if you haven't already.

Lunch Boxes



Can we, please, remind you about our Healthy Eating Policy in pre-school. If you are sending in a lunch box for your child, this should not contain sweets, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks. We have a 'No Nut' Policy in the pre-school so, please, no food that contains nuts. If you are sending in grapes or cherry tomatoes with your child, please cut them in half to avoid choking.

Children's Toys

We provide a wide variety of toys at the pre-school so, to prevent tears, can we please ask you to refrain from letting your children bring their own toys in. We cannot guarantee that they will not get lost or broken. The exceptions are comforting toys for the new starters or the youngest children in the group.

Children's Clothes

Please send your children in with weather appropriate clothes, plus plenty of spare clothes just in case there are any mishaps or your child gets wet or dirty from the outside play area. Can we, please, also ask parents to make sure that they have their child's name clearly labelled on all items of clothing and shoes too! You would be surprised at how many of the same shoes we have!

Dates for your Diary:

February

Friday 9th

Valentines Cake Sale, 3pm

Last day of Term 3

Monday 19th

Start of Term 4

Thursday 29th

Committee Meeting, 8pm

March

Monday 25th

Easter Raffle & Easter Bonnet Parade

Thursday 28th

Last day of Term 4

April

Monday 15th

Start of Term 5

May

Saturday 18th

Bikeathon & Fun Day, 10am

Friday 24th

Last day of Term 5

June

Monday 3rd

Start of Term 6

Tuesday 11th

Sports Day, 9.30am

July

Saturday 6th

Summer Production & Leavers Ceremony,
South Moreton Church, 10am

Friday 19th

End of Term 6



Message from the Fundraising Team

We are a charity run pre-school and all proceeds from our fundraising events go straight back into your child's pre-school. The only other money that the pre-school receives is from your session fees, which is not enough to keep the pre-school refreshed and up to date. If you would like to help, or would like to share your ideas, please contact a member of the pre-school team and we can add you to the Fundraising WhatsApp Group. [New members are very welcome, the more help and ideas we have the more money we can raise!](#)

Money Raised

Halloween

With the Guess the Pumpkin Weight competition and our Halloween cake sale we made £198. Thank you to all who donated, helped on the stall and bought some yummy cakes.

Nativity, Christmas Raffle & School Fete Teddy Tombola

Our Nativity and Raffle was also a huge success! Everyone had lots of fun and the children were all amazing little performers. With our ticket sales, the raffle and refreshments on sale we made a whopping £506! Thank you all so much! This is a huge amount for our little preschool. Our Teddy Tombola at the school fete also did well and we managed to raise £102.



Upcoming Events

Valentines Cake Sale, Friday 9th February at 3pm & Valentines Dress Up Week w/c 5th February



Our next fundraiser is a Valentines cake sale, and this will be held on Friday 9th February after school. Please do let us know if you could donate some cakes, volunteer on the stall or help us to raise funds by purchasing some yummy cakes.

Throughout the week we are also going to have a Valentines Dress Up Week so do please bring your children dressed up in pink or red for some Valentines fun. The donations of £1 for dress-up are welcome.

Easter Raffle & Easter Bonnet Parade – Monday 25th March

This Easter we will be holding an Easter Raffle, and we already have some great prizes up for grabs. We will let you all know when the tickets are going on sale. This will be drawn on Monday 25th March. We will also be holding an Easter Bonnet Parade, more information to come....



Please Save the Dates:

- Bikeathon & Fun Day – Saturday 18th May at 10am
- Sports Day – Tuesday 11th June at 9.30am
- End of Year Production & Leavers Ceremony – Saturday 6th July at 10am