

October 2023
Term 1&2 – Newsletter 1

South Moreton



Pre-School

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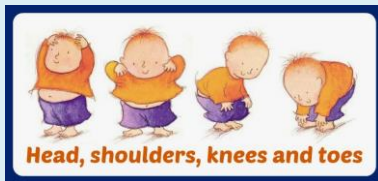


Newsletter

We were very excited to see all of our returning children and their families and hear all of their news at the beginning of the school year. We would also like to say a huge welcome to all of our new children and their families to our pre-school family. All of the children have settled in brilliantly and our new children have spent a lot of time exploring the setting, getting to know everyone and learning our pre-school rules and routines.

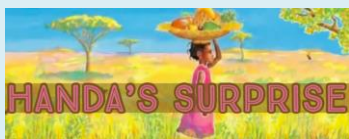


At the start of the school year, we explored the 'All About Me' theme by looking at our bodies and faces. We learned some body action songs. 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes', 'Two Little Dicky Birds', 'Little Turtle' and 'Wheels on the Bus' were our favourites. We also tested our physical skills on an obstacle course outside. The children played games that encourage sharing and working as a team. Our Dentist Surgery role-plays were very popular activities. We also liked going on a Nature Hunt in the pre-school garden.



We have been learning about harvest time and have read The Gingerbread Man story. The children enjoyed the 'Supermarket Shop' role play and Shopping List board game. We explored our harvest display and engaged in a variety of autumn themed crafts. We also baked some delicious banana muffins, they were very yummy!

We held our first International Day this school year! We have explored the story of 'Handa's Surprise'. At snack time we tasted all the exotic fruits from the story - a mango and a pineapple were the winners! We also enjoyed fruit printing and painting with watercolour too so we have had a very busy start to the school year.



Kenya



This week we are reading 'Owl Babies' story and learning about emotions. We are also continuing with our Autumn theme.

To keep yourselves informed about our learning, please go to our Facebook group to read our weekly updates.

New EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage):

To find out about what the Early Years Foundation Stage is and what changes were put in place last September, please follow the link [Parents guide to the EYFS](#)

Oral health and Healthy Smiles accreditation:



Every Early Years provider must promote good health, including oral health, for children attending the setting. Two years ago, we took part in obtaining the Healthy Smiles accreditation and this is now due for renewal so to complete this new accreditation, we will need to achieve certain standards, which we will be able to do only with your support. Each week we are going to work with children on theme-related activities and also give children homework to complete at home and bring it back to collect as evidence. We will also promote oral health by posting the related material on our Facebook page regularly and we hope you will support our efforts.

Working with parents:

Next term we would like to start with our Woodland Walks and during some sessions take the children on educational walks around the village. However, this would require higher adult: child ratios so we are looking for parents to come along and help us to supervise children. If you are interested, please let us know. Once when we plan the walks, there will be a sign-up sheet on the white board by the entrance door.



Tapestry:

To keep you informed about your child's learning at pre-school, we try to regularly post observations on Tapestry. Please, log on to your Tapestry account to read the observations and feel free to comment and add to them by sharing photos and special moments you have with your children at home. Your contributions will help us to get to know your child even better and to offer the curriculum that follows their interests and needs.

AGM - Management committee:

Our AGM was held on 5th October 2023 and it was a great success!

Thank you to everyone who attended and a big welcome to our new committee members Shirley Ndangoh, Alex Haworth-Lewis, Ali Milne, Andrew Vivian and Caroline Kinash. Katie Debrates, Clemmie Gilbert, Matt Roberts and Katie Whitehead are continuing to serve on the committee and we are grateful for their support.

Many thanks to Alice Channer, Georgie Ward and Beth Mason, our committee members who stepped down this October, for all their hard work and dedication.

Spare Clothes Request



Can we please ask parents to return any spare clothes that your child has come home in that are the preschool's, as we are now running extremely low on extra clothing for the children.

If you have any spare clothes at home that you no longer require, any donations would be hugely appreciated. We are in particular need of socks and boys pants and any trousers if you have some spare.



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!](#)

Upcoming Events

Halloween 'Guess The Pumpkin Weight' – This week



We have already sent Guess the Pumpkin Weight slips home with you last week and we are asking for £1 for you to guess the correct weight to the nearest gram and the winner will be revealed this Thursday 20th October so that you can take away your yummy prize before half term.

Halloween Cake Sale – Thursday 2nd November

We would like to hold a Halloween cake sale the first Thursday back after half term, if you would be willing to donate some cakes can you please let us know and if there are any volunteers to help run the stall that would be great. Please support our fundraising efforts and bring some pennies to purchase some yummy treats. This will be held (weather dependant) outside preschool entrance at 2.45pm if it is raining, or outside the front of school if the weather is ok.



Berkshire Primary Images – Monday 20th November



We have Berkshire Primary Images coming in on Monday 20th November to take photos of the children for Christmas. These photos are lovely gifts for family and friends and the pre-school gets a commission from any photos that we sell. If your child is not in pre-school on this day, you are more than welcome to come in with your child as we wouldn't want anyone to miss out. A letter will be sent home nearer the time with more information.

Nativity & Christmas Raffle – Saturday 2nd December

Please keep this date in your diary as this is when we are planning on holding our annual Nativity and raffle at South Moreton Church. If you would be able to donate anything towards our raffle, please let us know. Watch this space for more details soon.....



Easy Fundraising

Can we please remind all parents that we are signed up to Easy Fundraising! These are really easy ways to raise money for the pre-school every time you shop. You can use the Easy Fundraising site to shop online with more than 4,000 well known online stores like Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S and when you make a purchase, the retailer sends us a free donation, at no extra cost to you.

To register for this please go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/southmoretonpreschool/> and click 'support us'.

Amazon Wish List

We will soon have an Amazon Wish List set up which is another way that you can help support our little preschool if you wish with resources that we need every day in the preschool. Details to follow soon....

Save the Dates for Fundraising Events for 2024

Please put these future dates in your diary for events we are planning on holding in 2024. More details will follow nearer the time so watch this space.....

- **Valentines celebration & cake sale – Thursday 8th February**
- **Easter Raffle & Easter Bonnet Parade – Monday 25th March**
- **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**

Reminders

Invoices

Please check the payment due dates for our Term 2 invoice and pay as soon as possible if you haven't already.

Healthy Smiles Consent Forms, Child's Update form and your Involvement with the Setting Form

Can we please remind you to please bring in these forms as soon as possible.

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. Can we please also remind you that we have a No Nut Policy in the pre-school and can we also please remind you that if you are sending in grapes with your child to 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

Can we please remind parents to send their 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:

October

Thursday 19th

Pumpkin weight winner revealed!

Friday 20th

End of Term 1

Monday 30th

Start of Term 2

November

Thursday 2nd

Halloween Cake Sale

Thursday 9th

Committee Meeting

Monday 20th

Pre-School Photos by Berkshire

Primary Images for Christmas

December

Saturday 2nd

Nativity & Christmas Raffle at
South Moreton Church at 10am

Wednesday 20th

End of Term 2

January

Monday 8th

Start of Term 3

February

Thursday 8th

Valentines Celebration & Cake Sale

Friday 9th

End of Term 3

Monday 19th

Start of Term 4

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

Friday 24th

End of Term 5

June

Monday 3rd

Start of Term 6

Tuesday 11th

Sports Day

July

Saturday 6th

Summer Production & Leavers Ceremony

Friday 19th

End of Term 6