



Newsletter

Term 1

This week is the last week of Term 1 and we are happy to confirm that all the children have settled in brilliantly! Our new children have spent a lot of time exploring the setting, getting to know everyone and learning about our pre-school rules and routines.

This September, we explored the 'All About Me' theme by looking at our bodies, exploring our likes and dislikes and talking about our families. We learnt lots of body action songs. 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes', 'Little Turtle' and 'Wheels on the Bus' were some of our favourites. We tested our physical skills on an obstacle course outside. The children played games that encourage sharing and working as a team. We also liked going on the autumn nature walks around the big school field.



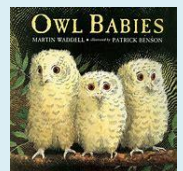
Previous weeks, we have been learning about harvest time and read the 'The Little Red Hen' story. The children enjoyed the 'Farm Shop' role play outside and the 'Shopping List' board game as well as the games related to farm animals. They explored our harvest display and engaged in a wide variety of craft activities. We also baked some delicious breads, and all the children said they were yummy!



Kenya

We held our first International Day this school year! Last week 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 week.

This week we are focusing on the 'Owl Babies' story and exploring our emotions through theme-related crafts and games. We are also continuing with exploring the theme of Autumn.



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

What's next?

Next term we will start with Diwali, Bonfire Night and fireworks activities. We will also commemorate Remembrance Day. In November, we will take part in Anti-Bullying Week and explore the ways of how to be a good friend. In December, we will learn about winter season and celebrate Christmas.

New EYFS:

To learn more about the Early Years Foundation Stage and the importance of early years education, please follow the link <https://foundationyears.org.uk/files/2021/09/What-to-expect-in-the-EYFS-complete-FINAL-16.09-compressed.pdf>

Tapestry:



To keep you informed about your child's learning at preschool, 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.

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 in helping us, please let us know. Once when we plan the dates of the walks, there will be a sign-in sheet on the white board by the entrance door.

The Nativity Practice will also take place a week before the performance w/c 2nd December. The same as the woodland walks, we will also need parent helpers to be able to achieve these practices at the church which are really important for the little ones to get used to their environment.



Absences:

Just a polite reminder that if your child is absent from the preschool due to appointments and illnesses or holidays, you must contact us and let us know the reason for absence and length of absence. If your child is then unable to return to the preschool after the agreed absence period, you must again contact the preschool. Please, do this via phone call or email before 10 am. Many thanks for your cooperation.

Staff update:

As you already know, this September we welcomed two new Preschool Educators to our team, Zoe Lewis and Hannah Rhodes. We are delighted to confirm that they are both doing great and are already much loved by the children.

We are happy to confirm that this school year again Miss Lucy from Kinecroft Academy of Dance will do regular dance classes on Wednesday morning at our preschool. Miss Lucy is currently looking for some new pupils to attend her classes at the Academy so, if you are interested, please get in touch. Her poster with all the information could be found displayed on our entrance door.

We are also sad to announce that Nicola Vaughan, our Educator who works on Fridays, is leaving us in November due to some private reasons. It was a pleasure to have Nicola working with us and she will be missed. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

Management committee:

Our AGM was held on 3rd October 2024 and it was a great success!

Thank you to everyone who attended and a big welcome to our new committee members Amie Lissenden, Alice Jones, Natasha Coll & Shirin Jowhari Moghadam.

Matt Roberts (Chair), Katie Defrates (Co. Chair), Clemmie Gilbert (Secretary), Shirley Ndangoh (Treasurer), Katie Whitehead, Alex Haworth-Lewis, Ali Milne and Andrew Vivian are continuing to serve on the committee and we are very grateful for their support.

Story book bags



Last year, the children enjoyed taking story books home in our key group book bags and sharing them at home with their parents. The parents gave us feedback on the different stories they shared with their child at bedtime by filling in the reading diary. It was helpful for us to find out which stories were popular so we would like to do this again this year. The book bags will start going home next term.

When it is your turn to take a book bag home, please make sure that you bring it back to your child's next session so that we can send it home with another child. We would like everyone to have the opportunity to take preschool books home and enjoy story times with their parents.

Reminders

Invoices

Please check the payment due dates for our Term 2 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!

Preschool Hoodies, Jumpers & T-Shirts



We have had our new delivery in of Pre-School hoodies and t-shirts. If you would like to purchase them, please feel free to contact a member of staff. They cost £18 for a hoodie and £11 for a t-shirt.





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 24th October so that you can take away your yummy prize before half term.

Halloween Cake Sale – Wednesday 23rd October

To go alongside our Guess the Pumpkin Weight challenge, our fundraisers are also holding a Halloween cake sale this Wednesday, 23rd October. If you would be willing to donate some cakes can you please let us know. Please support our fundraising efforts and bring some pennies to purchase some yummy treats. This will be held (weather dependant) outside the school entrance from 3pm.



Berkshire Primary Images – Thursday 21st November



We have Berkshire Primary Images coming in on Thursday 21st 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 7th 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.....



Save the Dates for Fundraising Events for 2025

Please put these future dates in your diary for events we are planning on holding in 2025. More details will follow nearer the time so watch this space.....

- Valentines Celebration Fundraiser & Cake Sale – w/c 10th February
- Easter Celebration Fundraiser – During March
- Bikeathon & Fun Day – Saturday 10th May at 10am
- Sports Day – Tuesday 10th June at 9.30am
- End of Year Summer Concert & Leavers Ceremony – Saturday 5th July at 10am

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....

Dates for your Diary:

October

Wednesday 23rd

Halloween Cake Sale

Thursday 24th

Pumpkin weight winner revealed!

Friday 25th

End of Term 1

November

Monday 4th

Start of Term 2

Thursday 14th

Committee Meeting

Thursday 21st

Pre-School Photos by Berkshire

Primary Images for Christmas

December

Saturday 7th

Nativity & Christmas Raffle at
South Moreton Church at 10am

Friday 20th

End of Term 2

January

Monday 6th

Start of Term 3

February

w/c 10th February

Valentines Celebration & Cake Sale

Friday 14th

End of Term 3

Monday 24th

Start of Term 4

March

During March

Easter Fundraiser

-April

Friday 4th

End of Term 4

Wednesday 23rd

Start of Term 5

May

Saturday 10th

Bikeathon & Fun Day

Friday 23rd

End of Term 5

June

Monday 2nd

Start of Term 6

Tuesday 10th

Sports Day 9.30am

July

Saturday 5th

Summer Production & Leavers Ceremony

Friday 18th

End of Term 6