



Newsletter September 2025

Welcome back to Pre-school after the summer break and a special hello to all our new children and their families.

Focus for this half term: This will be the topic of 'Nursery Rhymes.' We will be learning new rhymes and practising all the traditional ones. We will make Humpty Dumpty's wall out of different resources and learn new words and their meaning like 'tuffet' and 'curds and whey.' As we sing rhymes the children will be encouraged to fill in words that the teacher's miss out. Number rhymes will help us with counting skills, counting backwards and forwards. As the term progresses, we will explore all the different colours that the season of autumn brings. I will continue to send the focus planning out to you all via email, starting from Monday the 8th, and this gives you an outline of the sort of activities your child might take part in during the week at their own level. Plans aimed at younger children will be recoded in green and older children's plans in blue. This is not rigid, however, and lots of older children will enjoy the green activities and younger ones the blue! We are also aware that young children's learning is often driven by their own interests, so our plans are always flexible. The planning does not cover our continuous provision unless it is a focus on a particular week, so I just want to reassure you that activities like block building, books, sand, painting, water and playdough are always available to the children.

Library books: We offer a wide selection of books for the children to explore and each week your child will be able to choose a book from our newly stocked library to bring home to share with you. They will also bring home a book log for you to sign and comment in when you have finished the book. There are also happy and sad faces for your child to colour/circle to indicate whether they enjoyed it or not.

Self-registration: We use a registration system for the children to use as well as the teacher's record. Each child will have a named coloured star placed on the table in the cloakroom and if you could help them to find their star, they can then stick it to our small night sky display just as they come into the classroom. We know most children will not yet be able to recognise their name but hopefully with practise and persistence they soon will do!

Packed lunches: Could you please provide a healthy packed lunch and ensure that your child's lunchbox and any containers inside it are named. Could you also put an ice pack in it as we store the bags in the cloakroom area in the morning. Please also be aware that we cannot have any products containing nuts in the setting. **We will now be providing each child with their own named water bottle water each day that we will fill and refill so there is no need for drinks bottles or cartons in lunch**

bags. At snack time the children will be offered either milk or water to drink.

Could any small fruits like grapes and blue berries be cut lengthways and if your child brings in a babybel cheese could you please take it out of its wrapper. Could we also ask that there are no popcorn packs put in lunch bags as these are a choking hazard.

Birthday celebrations: We celebrate all our children's birthdays in Pre-school by letting them blow real candles out on our pretend cake and singing happy birthday to them. Following the release of new Government guidance on healthy eating and allergies, we now must ask that no sweets or cake are sent in on birthdays. If your child wanted to bring in something to share on their birthday then stickers are always a big hit!

Family tree: We are once again renewing our family tree display in Pre-school which has photographs of each child and their families and pets. The children really enjoy looking at this display and finding themselves so if you could all please bring some photographs in? Up to 4 would be fine. It also helps us as we use it to recognise extended family if they collect your child

and seeing the photographs can be comfort if your child is a little unsettled initially.

Weather: If the weather turns cooler and wetter, could you all ensure that your child brings a named waterproof coat to Pre-school. **As we try to play out in all weathers throughout the autumn and winter, we would also like to ask that each child brings an all-in-one puddle suit and wellies to Pre-school from the beginning of October.**

These can be stored in a bag on their pegs if you do not want to take them home each afternoon. On the other hand, if the sun continues to shine in September could you then ensure that your child wears sun cream and brings a sun hat!

PE session: Very sadly Sam, who did our PE sessions for us last year, has left our on-site primary school and so will no longer be able to offer us our sessions moving forward. We are trying to find a replacement company to cover these sessions as the children really do enjoy them and we will keep you updated. In the mean time we will still be planning our own PE sessions on different days each week so all the children get a chance to experience them.

Ofsted: We had an Ofsted inspection back in June and we were very pleased to retain our 'good' status, something that seems to be increasingly difficult to do! A copy of the report is available on the Ofsted website- please follow this link to access it-

[Bollinbrook Pre-School - Open - Find an Inspection Report - Ofsted](#)

Caroline Bickerton Pre-school Manager