



Newsletter January 2026

Welcome back to Pre-school and I wish you all a very happy 2026. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas. Can I just take this opportunity to thank you for the lovely gifts we got from the children at the end of term. They are always very much appreciated.

I would like to welcome our new starters and their families to Pre-school this term.

Focus for this half term: We will be looking at all aspects of the winter season, including exploring real snow and ice and learning about polar regions and animals. As January progresses, we will also be learning about different kinds of birds and we will once again be joining in with the RSPB great garden birdwatch at the end of this month. We will use our binoculars to look closely at birds on the school field, count them and record what we see on our bird watching charts. Your child will also be bringing home their own bird watching sheets so they can record what they see at home or in the park. Our maths focus will be counting out loud and counting out objects so, for example, the children will be taking it in turns to count the other children on their table at snack time and then collecting the right number of cups and plates for them all. We will also be counting lots of birds on our school field- usually seagulls! Our literacy focus will be based around the stories 'Polar Bear, Polar Bear What do you Hear?' 'Blue Penguin' and 'Polar Bear in the Snow.' We will also be sharing non-fiction books about Antarctica.

Nappies/pull ups and toilet training: We now have many children wearing pull-ups at pre-school, rather than nappies. Can I please ask that from the beginning of next week (so you have time to re-supply), unless your child is going through toilet training, could you please put your child in nappies with side fastenings and spares in their bags. These are so much quicker to change as each child does not need undressing to put a new one on. If your child is three and still not yet using the toilet or potty, please feel free to come in for a chat and we can help support you through the toilet training process.

Sickness: Can we remind you that if your child develops a temperature or new continuous cough, you need to keep them at home for at least 48 hours and

certainly until the temperature has gone. If your child develops sickness or diarrhoea, then please keep them at home until 48 hours after the last symptom.

Labelling: Could we ask that all clothes that your child might remove, particularly uniform cardigans, sweatshirts, hats and coats are named. Could you also ensure packed lunch boxes, any containers within them and drinks bottles are also named. Thank you.

Family Tree Display: We have a display of family photographs in Pre-school and it would be lovely if every child was represented on it. We would just need 3 or 4 photos of your child with close family members and pets. If you have no photos to hand, we are more than happy to print them out in Pre-school if you email them to us.

Weather: Could you please make sure that your child brings a warm coat, puddle suit, hat and gloves to Pre-school. We do try and get outside in all weathers!

School starters September 2026: If your child is due to start primary school this September, please ensure you have applied for their place at your chosen school. Go online at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schooladmissions to apply. If you do not have web access call 0300 123 5012 for more information. The deadline for putting your child's name down is the 15th January.

Caroline Bickerton Pre-school Manager