



Newsletter April 2026

Welcome back to Pre-school. I hope you all had a lovely Easter break.

Focus: Over the next 2 weeks we will be sharing the stories 'The Blue Balloon' and 'The Perfect Fit.' Both stories talk about and involve shapes, and this will be a focus for us from learning the names of the more common shapes to more unusual ones- oval, kite, diamond, hexagon. For our older children writing their own name or making marks to represent their names will also be a focus and we will really begin to encourage independence skills as we start the preparation for the transition to school. Children going to school this year will also be bringing home some early reading books linked to the 'Read Write Inc' method of teaching phonics that they use in our main school. There will be more information about this in your child's book when they bring one home. We will also be introducing phonics sessions on a Tuesday and a Friday. As we also continue to observe the changes in the seasons, we will be having a go at doing a still life painting of sunflowers and we will look at Van Gogh's version to inspire us. We will also be learning about the life cycle of frogs and butterflies. We will be visiting forest school to look at real frogspawn in the pond and have 5 real caterpillars delivered to us in a couple of weeks.

Parent Questionnaires: We will shortly be sending out some simple questionnaires about our setting for you to complete. We use the replies to these in helping to plan for improvement so would really appreciate you taking the time to fill them in.

PE sessions: We will be starting our new PE sessions this week and these will be held on a Thursday morning this term. Hopefully these sessions will take place outside but in rainy weather the main school have kindly offered us use of the hall. If you have not yet done so, can you please set up the payments and complete the form before Thursday, directly with Macclesfield FC as detailed in the letter.

Parent's Evening: We will be holding a parent's evening on Thursday 14th May from 5-7.30pm in Pre-school. Parents of all age groups of children are invited. We will be putting up time slots on the cloakroom door for you to book in to see your child's keyperson or myself. Each slot will be 10 minutes long. If you do not usually drop off or collect your child just let us know what time would suit you via email and we can book you in.

School Leavers Summer Trip: On Tuesday 7th July we will be inviting all our school leavers to Lakemore Farm Park- @the social farm near Crewe for the day. We will be sending more details about the trip in the next few weeks with consent forms and pricing etc. **Please note Pre-school will remain open on this day for our younger children or older children who do not come on the trip.**

Sun Cream: If the weather forecast is for sunny weather (you never know!) could you please ensure you have applied long lasting sun cream to your child before they come into Pre-school and that they have a named bottle of sun cream in their bag. Could you also send them in with a sun hat. If your child is in Pre-school all day, we can help them re apply cream after lunch.

Spare clothes: Could you ensure that your child always has a spare set of clothes in their bags. We will be exploring lots of water activities over the coming weeks and could well need them! Please also ensure that outer clothes, particularly coats, hats and the Pre-school sweatshirts and cardigans are named, as well as lunch boxes and any containers within them. Thank you.

Leaver's Day: Just as a heads up with more details to follow, we will be holding our leaver's assembly and picnic on Friday 17th July. All children who are leaving us for school are invited, even if they do not normally attend on a Friday. Drop off as normal and then there will be a

special assembly at 11.15 am with a picnic provided by us to follow. All parents are invited to join us from 11.15 and we ask that after the picnic that all children go home with you.

Please note that Pre-school closes for all younger children on Thursday 16th July at 3 pm.

Dates for the diary:

Parent's Evening- Thursday 14th May 5-7.30pm in Pre-school

School leavers summer trip- Tuesday 7th July

Last Day of term for our younger children not leaving us for school- Thursday 16th July

School leavers assembly and picnic- Friday 17th July

Caroline Bickerton Pre-school Manager