Registered Charity No: 1023849

Newsletter November 2026

Welcome back to Pre-school after the half term break and to a very busy few weeks ahead!

Focus for this half term: Over the next week, we will be exploring lots of firework activities and learning about the festival of Diwali. After this we will move on to the theme of light and dark and then the story 'Stick Man' before Christmas craft season arrives- lots of glitter and glue involved! I will continue to send out the planning so you can see what sort of activities your child will be taking part in each week.

As we have worked with the children over the last half term we have picked up on some areas where quite a few of the children struggle- completing interlocking jigsaw puzzles, counting out loud and singing familiar nursery rhymes. The singing of nursery rhymes is a really good way of teaching children language and rhythm, and research suggests that if a child knows at least 8 nursery rhymes by the time they are 4 they are usually among the better readers by year 3. Jigsaws are an incredibly good to way to develop problem solving, concentration, spatial awareness and visual perception skills. These therefore are some of the key areas we will be working on moving forwards, linking into the topics each week at each child's level. We will also continue to work on colour names and making simple repeating patterns.

On Friday 13th November we will celebrate Children in Need Day by asking everyone to wear something spotty and bringing in a small donation. There will be also lots of Pudsey Bear craft activities on offer that day too.

Our first Christmas celebration will be on Friday 11th December when we are inviting parents into pre-school to join in with a Christmas craft and singing session from 9-10 am. If your child is in our oldest group (leaving us next summer) and they do not normally attend on a Friday morning, you are welcome to bring them for this hour-long session if you wish too. We will also be holding a Christmas party on the last day of term, Friday 18th December, to which all the children are invited. If Friday is not your child's usual session and you would like them to attend, then please bring them in at 9.45 and collect at 11.30. If your child normally comes in just on a Friday afternoon, then the party session will

replace that on this day. More details to follow about all the Christmas celebrations in the next couple of weeks.

Funding: If you have a funding code for your child, please remember to continue to reconfirm your details when prompted to do so.

Outdoor Play: As the weather turns colder and wetter can you please ensure your child has a warm coat, hat, wellies and puddle suits with them on each of their sessions. Wellies and puddle suits can be kept in pre-school in a bag hung on their peg if you do not want to bring them in every day.

Naming clothes and lunchboxes: Just a reminder to name all coats, hats, wellies, jumpers and cardigans, lunch boxes and any items inside them like drink bottles and small boxes. Thank you.

Dates for the Diary:

Children in Need Day: Friday 13th November
Christmas Jumper Day Craft session: Friday 11th December @ 9-10 am
Christmas Party: Friday 18th December 10-11.45 am

Caroline Bickerton Pre-school Manager