



January 2024

Newsletter 6

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back after Christmas holidays. We hope you and your families had a wonderful time celebrating Christ's birth and we would like to wish you a very happy and healthy 2024. A very warm welcome to all our new parents and carers. We hope that the time your children spend at Friary Preschool will be a happy, enjoyable, and successful experience and that you feel a part of the community here.

Thank you to all parents who took time to complete and return the feedback forms. If you wish to share your opinion, suggestions, or concerns with us, please request a feedback form from the staff member at the door and after completing put it in the 'Suggestion and Feedback Box' provided. We would love to hear from you.

In January the children will listen to some winter stories, songs and will be introduced winter vocabulary such as: hibernation, freezing, icicle, frosty, skiing etc. The children will learn about arctic animals, animal movement (Penguin waddle) and different textures. We have planned some fun and interesting activities such as: winter scavengers hunt in the preschool field, ice painting, winter collages, winter tree craft and many more.

Saturday, 6th of January

At the end of the Twelve Days of Christmas comes a day called the **Epiphany**, or **Three Kings Day**. This is a Christian feast day celebrated as the day the three wise men first saw baby Jesus and brought him gifts. We will celebrate this day with the children on Friday the 5th of January. The children will listen to a little story about three wise men.

Online School Application Form (Children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020)

If your child is due to start school in September 2024, you must apply online by visiting westsussex.gov.uk/admissions before the closing date – 15th January 2024.

TAPESTRY login details (Preschool online journal)

Tapestry activation emails have been sent to the parents of our new children who started the Preschool in January 2024. Please activate your children's tapestry accounts to see photos and observations. If you have a problem login into your child's tapestry account or need any support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

SNACK donation

Please remember to bring some fruit to share or a donation of £2/week. We thank you for your continuous support.

Friary Preschool

Southgate Drive, Southgate
Crawley, West Sussex, RH106HD
Telephone: 01293 403873

<https://www.friarypreschool.co.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FriaryPreschoolCrawley/>



PACKED LUNCH

If your child stays for lunch, please provide a labelled lunch box/bag. We encourage all parents to prepare a healthy lunch for their children including fruits and vegetables. (No chocolate, sweets, or crisps etc.) This is to get your child into good eating habits from an early age.

Please cut chunky fruit pieces in half. **Grapes, tomatoes, cocktail sausages must be cut lengthways to protect your child from choking.**

Please do not put popcorn in your child lunch bags as popcorn is classed as the highest choking hazard food for young children.

We have NO nut policy in Friary Preschool due to some children with severe allergies. Please ensure that the packed lunch you provide for your child is free from food items that may contain nuts. Therefore, no Nutella or Peanut butter sandwiches please.

TOILET TRAINING

Please contact us if you are starting toilet training at home with your child. We will continue to support your child during their time at the Preschool.

Please **do not** send children to Preschool in 'pull ups'. Nappies only, and please make sure there are wipes in your child's bag.

Things to remember:

- **Please do not bring toys from home**
- **Please put wipes and spare clothes in your child's bag**
- **Please make sure your child has their wellies on or as a spare in their bag**
- **Please label all your child's belongings: bags, bottles, coats etc.**
- **Please Inform a member of staff of any accidents happened at home**
- **If you wish to speak to a member of staff in the morning, please wait until all children go inside**

Collecting your child EARLY/LATE

We are kindly asking all parents/carers to collect children promptly at the time their session ends. Collection times are **12pm, 3pm or 3.30pm**. This is due to staff and children taking part in activities throughout the sessions and are not always able to handover your child before their session ends.

If your child has an appointment and you need to collect your child at a different time to their session ends, please email or call the preschool office and we will make sure your child is ready when you turn up to collect them.

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If you are going to be late, please telephone the Preschool to advise on 01293 403873. Please note that there is a **late collection fee of £5** charged to parents/carers collecting their child late.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is a curriculum for 3-5 years old children. At this stage of learning, your child will be mainly learning through play-based activities. They will also be learning about routine, social skills, developing early literacy and maths skills, and learning about the world around them.

For more information about Early years curriculum please go to www.birthto5matters.org.uk

FUNDING – Funded 2-year-olds and 30 Hours Extended Free Entitlement

Parents and Carers are reminded that it is their responsibility to apply and obtain the necessary codes (if entitled) to cover the costs of additional child-care sessions. Friary Preschool will shortly be submitting estimated child headcount data to West Sussex County Council for the Spring Term.

If you have not obtained a code in good time, then the Friary Preschool will potentially not be able to claim the cost of your child's place and we will need to charge you for the sessions that Funding is not available to be claimed.

If you have any questions or would like any support in completing the necessary applications /documents to obtain the Funding codes, please contact your local Children and Family Centre on 01243 777807 or by email: free.childcare@westsussex.gov.uk.

Preschool Contact Details

For general enquiries, these can be emailed to the Friary Preschool using the email address: info@friarypreschool.co.uk or by telephone on 01293 403873.

Warmest wishes

The Friary Preschool Team