



October 2023

Newsletter 2

Dear Parents and Carers

During the month of September, we have spent a lovely time meeting our new children and we were very pleased to welcome everyone back to preschool after the summer holidays. Members of staff are very happy with how quickly and smoothly the children have adapted to the routines of the preschool this year. The children have shown a great interest in taking part in prepared activities and have been discovering and investigating the resources available to them as well as the outside garden.

In October the children will learn about season of Autumn. What happens to the trees, why some animals fall asleep for a very long time, do the days become shorter and the nights last longer. We will talk about Autumn's weather and what are the suitable clothes to wear. The children will take part in many different activities where they will be using colourful leaves, conkers etc.

OCTOBER EVENTS

Wednesday, 4th October – St Francis of Assisi feast day. St Francis is a patron saint of animals and environment. He was known for his love of nature and all God's creation. He lived his life of poverty and preached to people about the life of Jesus Christ.

On that day we will be sharing with children some facts about St Francis. Fr Nelson is expected to visit the children to say a little pray and give children a blessing.

Harvest Festival – Food donation request. The Harvest Festival falls on the 1st of October this year. It is a traditional event celebrating the successful gathering of the year's crops. Next week we will be collecting food at Friary Preschool to give to people in need. We would like to encourage all parents to send your child to Preschool with one item of food or more if you are in position to donate more, to help those who are less fortunate. The best food to donate are **canned goods** (soup, tomatoes, beans, canned fruit and vegetables, chickpeas etc, **food cupboard items** (pasta, rice, cereals, lentils, beans etc, or **spices**.

STAFF CHANGES

We would like to inform you of some staffing changes that will take place this month and after October half term. Monika Obhan will sadly be leaving us on the 13th of October 2023. And two new members of staff will join the Friary Preschool team after October half term. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Monika for her commitment, positivity and all the support she has offered to other staff and many children and their families. She will be missed but we wish her all the very best in her next job role.

Friary Preschool

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

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

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



OCTOBER HALF TERM

Half-term is scheduled for the 23rd of October 2023 to 27th of October 2023. **Preschool will be closed.**

NEW/SECOND – HAND UNIFORM

We have a few items of new and second-hand uniform and will be selling them on Thursday and Friday this week during the collection time.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - OPEN MORNINGS

St Francis of Assisi will be opening its door to prospective parents on Tuesday 3rd October 2023 at 9.30am and Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 9.30am. This is for children applying for a place in Reception Class next September 2024. If you wish to book a place on one of these days, please email: office@stfrancisassisi.org.uk.

PARENT/CARER CONSULTATIONS - November

Monday 27th of November, Wednesday 29th of November and Thursday 30th of November between 3.40pm and 4.40pm we will be holding Parent/Carer consultations at Friary Preschool. Please book a suitable date and time with your child's key practitioner.

DROP OFF & PICK UP

Please make sure you are collecting your child promptly after their session ends. We would like to encourage all Parents and Carers to kindly finish all telephone conversations and turn off all mobile phones before entering the Preschool playground to drop off or pick-up your child. It is important that the Preschool Practitioners have your full attention at drop off and collection times. If you wish to speak to a member of staff in the morning, please wait until all the children have gone in.

CHILD ABSENCE & LATENESS

Parents and Carers are asked to contact the Preschool on the landline telephone number **01293 403873** if your child is sick, unable to attend or is going to be late, on the morning that they are due to attend. We also ask all parents and carers to notify the Preschool if you are late collecting your child.

SNACK DONATION

Thank you for supporting the provision of children Preschool snacks by donating money towards the cost of the snacks or bringing fruits and snacks from home, to share.

LABELLING

It is very important to label children belongings (bags, bottles, coats, hats, etc.) Please make sure all your child's items have their name on them.

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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.

FOOTWEAR

Please make sure your child wears appropriate footwear. Wellies, boots etc for rainy days, no shoes with shoelaces – for the safety of your child. If your child comes into school in their wellies, could we kindly ask you to change them to shoes before they come into the setting.

Please do not send your child with hand sanitizer, medication and sweets in their bag.

PARKING

This is a gentle reminder to all parents/carers that parking on the school premises is not allowed. Please use Southgate Park on Southgate Avenue when dropping off/ collecting your child by car.

We would like to thank all the parents/carers for your cooperation and wish you and your children a positive and enjoyable Autumn season.

The Friary Preschool Team