



February 2024

Newsletter 6

Dear Parents and Carers

Every week the children have been introduced with a new letter. The children have been encouraged to learn the sound and simple letter formation through play, mark-making and creative activities to support their learning. Please see links below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc>

[Song of Sounds - Stage 1 2022 \(Actions\) \(youtube.com\)](#)

Valentine's Day - Wednesday, **7th of February (14th of February)** – making cards activity.

Pancake Day – Thursday, **8th of February, (13th of February/Shrove Tuesday)**

The traditional feast day before season of Lent begins. Children will be mixing ingredients to make pancakes, watching dry ingredients becoming wet, and everyone will choose their favourite toppings to eat their pancakes with.

We will hold a little physical activity 'Pancake races' and 'Pancake balancing' on the day, after children have digested their food 😊

Chinese New Year – Friday, **9th of February, (10th of February)**

During the January month the children will be learning about famous landmarks in China. A visitor will be coming to the Preschool to talk to children about the Chinese New Year, dragon dance, red envelopes, and the special food they cook to celebrate the event. The children will take part in Chinese dragon parade on preschool grounds accompanied by musical instruments and Chinese music.

FEBRUARY HALF TERM 12th – 16th February - Preschool will be closed.

Children's Mental Health Week – 19th – 23rd February

Day 1 – Discussion about the things the children are grateful for.

Day 2 – Mindfulness breathing exercises – help children to let go of worries.

Day 3 – Talk about different emotions using emotional cards– happy, sad, angry, worried etc.

Day 4 – Wellbeing walk exploring Preschool field.

Day 5 – Playing different emotions using musical instruments.

Friary Preschool

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

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

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



Getting ready for Green Fingers Garden Show Spring - 26th of February.

Children will be taking part in planting herb seeds activity.

Apply now for 15 hours free childcare from April 2024/ for 2-Year-Old children.

[How to claim 15 hours free childcare including how to get your code - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

The deadline to apply is 31st March. We recommend you do so by the end of February to get your childcare code in good time.

TAPESTRY

Please regularly check your account for observations and photos, feel free to comment or add photos of any activities you do with your child. Please contact us if you are experiencing any problems with Tapestry.

SNACK donation

Thank you so much to everyone remembering to bring a piece of fruit for snack time and to those donating money towards our healthy snacks. Please can we continue to encourage this from as many of you as possible.

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, biscuits, sweets, or crisps etc.) This is to get your child into good eating habits.

Please cut chunky fruit pieces in half and grapes, tomatoes, cocktail sausages 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.

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.

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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.

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

Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

Please contact The Friary Preschool office if your child receives DLA funding.

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.

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

Friary Preschool

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