

Newsletter November 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

Here we are nearly halfway through the Autumn Term. The time has gone so fast. The children have been baking cupcakes this morning for our little cupcake sale tomorrow. They did so well at measuring the flour and mixing all the ingredients. They are now very excited and look forward to decorating cupcakes tomorrow.

We would like to remind all parents that this Friday, the 25th of October is the last day of preschool. Next week, **28th of October – 01st of November is the Autumn Half Term and the preschool will be closed.** The first day back after the Autumn Half Term is Monday, the 4th of November. We wish all children and their families a restful and enjoyable half term break.

Autumn Half-Term Challenge/ Leaf Hunt Adventure

Go on a nature walk with your family and collect different types of autumn leaves. Look for a variety of colours: red, yellow, orange or brown. Challenge: Find 1 green leaf, 2 brown leaves, 3 orange leaves, 4 yellow leaves and 5 red leaves.



Acorn and Conker Counting

Collect 5 acorns, 5 conkers, or 5 pinecones. Use them for counting and simple math games. Challenge: Try counting how many you have found. Can you make groups of 5 or 10?

Please bring all your nature treasure to the preschool after the half term break.

Upcoming Events

4th November, Diwali – a day filled with light, fun and learning. We are excited to celebrate Diwali, the Festival of Lights with children. We will explore this beautiful tradition by creating colourful rangoli patterns, making sparkly lanterns and listening to the stories about Diwali.

5th November, Bonfire Night – children will create a colourful firework art using paint and glitter, listen to stories about fireworks, and learn about the bright colours and sound of a bonfire. We will also talk about staying safe while enjoying the excitement of the Bonfire Night.

11th November, Remembrance Day – we will gently introduce the children to Remembrance Day by talking about kindness, peace and helping others. Children will make poppy crafts to honour the day and share a short, age-appropriate story about remembering those who helped to keep us safe. Children will participate in a peaceful moment to reflect and show respect by staying silent for one minute.

13th November, World Kindness Day – we will celebrate World Kindness Day by encouraging the children to practise and share kindness in fun and meaningful ways. Create a 'Kindness Tree'. Each time a child performs a kind act, they can add a leaf to the tree with their name and the action that they did.

14th, 15th, 18th, 19th and 20th – Christmas Photoshoot/ fundraising event.

Children's individual photos will be taken in a beautiful Christmas background. The photos will be available for parents to select and purchase for £5 each. The photos make wonderful Christmas presents for the loved ones as well as cherished preschool memories. If you wish your child to participate in this special event, please send a festive or smart outfit with your child's name clearly labelled on the bag.

21st and 22nd November – Pyjama Day

All children and staff are invited to come to the preschool wearing their pyjamas for cosy and fun-filled Pyjama Days. We will focus on bedtime routine, including tooth brushing and having breakfast. Children will listen to the stories read by a member of staff and watch a short movie in a cosy corner with blankets and pillows.

Parent Consultation: 25th, 26th, and 27th November.

Connecting with your child's key practitioner and discussing their development is a vital and exciting part of their early years journey! We highly value the partnership between parents and our staff in nurturing your child's learning and growth. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate your child's achievements, discuss their progress, and explore how we can work together to support their learning. We invite you to meet with your child's key practitioner—please make an appointment to attend the upcoming parents' meeting. We look forward to sharing your child's journey and working together to help them thrive.

Reminders

- **Starting school in September 2025** – If your child was born between 1st of September and 31st of August 2021, please apply for a school place starting in September 2025. If St Francis of Assisi is your first preference, please remember to submit the school's supplementary form.
- **Book bags** – Please check your child's book bag daily and remove their craft work, drawings and colouring sheets. These are for them to take home.
- **Preschool toys** – it has been brought to our attention that some of our children take preschool toys home in their pockets. We kindly ask all parents to check the children's pockets and return the toys to the preschool.
- Please **label your child's belongings clearly.**
- **PACKED LUNCH**
 1. If your child brings yoghurt for lunch, please provide a spoon to eat it with.
 2. No **chocolate**, biscuits, sweets, or crisps etc. – encourage good eating habits.
 3. No popcorn – the highest choking hazard food for young children.
 4. No nuts, Nutella, **Pesto**, or Peanut butter sandwiches– staff with severe allergies.
 5. Please cut chunky fruit pieces in half and grapes, tomatoes, cocktail sausages lengthways to protect your child from choking.



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 as possible.

Friary Preschool Contact Details:

For general enquiries, these can be emailed to the Friary Preschool using the following email address:

info@friarypreschool.co.uk or by telephone on 01293 403873.