

Newsletter November 2025



Dear Parents and Carers

Here we are nearly halfway through the Autumn Term. The time has gone so fast.

We would like to remind all parents that this Friday, the 24th of October is the last day of preschool. Next week, **27th of October – 31st of October is the Autumn Half Term and the preschool will be closed.** The first day back after the Autumn Half Term is Monday, the 3rd of November. We wish all children and their families a restful and enjoyable half term break.

Autumn Half-Term Challenge

Celebrate the season with our Autumn Leaf Hunt & Nature Challenge!



Go on a walk with your family and collect colourful autumn treasures – leaves, acorns, conkers, and pinecones.

Bring them to preschool after the half-term break to share and use in our art and counting activities!

Find 1 green leaf, 2 yellow, 3 orange, 4 brown, and 5 red!

Collect 5 acorns, 5 conkers, and 5 pinecones for counting fun!

Upcoming Events

3rd November, Forest School – We're thrilled to offer our school leavers the opportunity to take part in Forest School sessions with Linda Keynes and Toby Radenhurst from St Wilfrid's School, supported by our preschool team. Children will be divided into two groups and attend on alternate weeks to enjoy exciting outdoor adventures—learning about nature, teamwork, and exploring through play.



Please make sure your child brings a waterproof all-in-one suit, so they're ready for any weather!

4th - 12th November, Christmas Photoshoot & Fundraiser – It's that magical time of year again! We're delighted to announce our annual Christmas Photoshoot, where we'll capture those special festive smiles in front of a beautiful holiday backdrop. Each photo costs just £5 — perfect for Christmas gifts or a cherished keepsake of your child's preschool years. These festive photos make a lovely way to celebrate the season and create lasting memories with your little one.

Please send your child's festive or smart outfit, clearly labelled, in a bag.

5th November, Bonfire Night – To celebrate Bonfire Night, the children will: create colourful firework art using paint and glitter, listen to stories about fireworks, talk about the sounds, colours, and safety of bonfire celebrations.

10th – 14th November, World Nursery Rhyme Week - This special week is all about celebrating the magic of nursery rhymes and how they help children learn and grow. Through singing, rhymes, movement, and lots of fun, we'll be helping our children build their vocabulary, develop early literacy and phonics awareness, explore counting and numeracy, and strengthen important social and physical skills.

11th November, Remembrance Day - We'll be introducing the children to the theme of Remembrance through simple discussions about kindness, peace, and helping others. A special visitor from the armed forces will come to talk with the children, helping them understand the importance of remembering and caring for others.

13th November, World Kindness Day - To celebrate World Kindness Day, we'll be focusing on showing kindness in our classroom. Together, we'll create a beautiful "Kindness Tree" – each time a child performs a kind act, they will add a leaf to the tree with their name and what they did. This helps children see how small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

17th – 21st November, "People Who Help Us Week" - We're very excited to welcome a variety of visitors who will come and talk to the children about how they help our community and look after others. Visitors will include a train driver, a postman, a paramedic, and a police officer.

We would love to invite any parents who would like to come into the setting to share about their job and how they help others. If you're interested, please speak to a member of staff.

27th & 28th November, Pyjama Days - Snuggle up for our Sponsored Pyjama Fun Day in support of the Crackerjack Children's Trust (50p donation). Children and staff can come to preschool in their cosiest pyjamas! We'll enjoy bedtime stories, toothbrushing and morning routines, and a short movie in our cosy reading corner with blankets and pillows.

Parent Consultation: 24th - 27th November.

We warmly invite you to meet with your child's key practitioner to discuss their progress, development, and achievements so far. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate your child's learning journey and talk about ways we can continue supporting them at preschool and home. Please book your appointment with your child's key worker.

Starting School in September 2026

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, it's time to apply for their reception school place.

If St Francis is your first choice, please make sure you complete and return the school's supplementary form along with your online application.

Visit from Senior Dental Nurse - Clare Brown

On 20th October, Senior Dental Nurse Clare Brown visited our preschool to talk to the children about healthy eating and good tooth-brushing habits. The children enjoyed the session and were excited to take their tooth brushing packs home! We're pleased to share that we are now supporting good oral health at preschool. A consent slip has been sent home for you to sign so your child can take part in our supervised tooth-brushing activity. Each term, children will receive a new toothbrush to use during this fun and healthy routine.

Reminders

- **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.
- 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.