


Newsletter

October 2023

Autumn Term



Contacts - You can contact us on (01884) 35018. The Pre-school mobile number is 07927057415. We can also be contacted at admin@cullomptonpreschool.org Our website address is www.cullomptonpreschool.org See our website for general information and our weekly blog and photos of what children have been doing and learning.  'Like' us on Facebook to see regular updates of our session activities.

AGM

Annual General Meeting

Thank you to everyone that took the time to attend our Annual General Meeting via Teams recently – we have successfully elected a new committee.

The newly elected committee members are as follows: -

James Shere (Chair), Nick Moore (Treasurer), Naomi Cook (Secretary), Becky Collins (Fund Raising Chair) and committee members Jodie Copp, Emma Horn, Rob Gillings and Jessica Titcombe. If you weren't able to attend the meeting but would like to be a committee member, please get in touch via the pre-school office.

Please support the committee at fundraising events that are run throughout the year – any help you can offer is always very much appreciated.

Dear Families

Message from Amelia (Pre-School Leader)

We are working on being healthy here at pre-school over the next half term! We love to bake our own snacks and share those recipes with you on our newsletter. The children love to chat about healthy foods and treats and they are able to explain what they know about exercise too which is brilliant! We follow guidance from the Department of Education and have strict guidelines to follow which now include teaching children about oral health. It is really important that children brush their teeth twice a day and we know that can be hard – there are a few links below that you may find helpful. The other guidance we have is that children should not have juice in their water bottles, but it is OK to have it at lunchtime. For a healthy lunch we have lots of ideas to help you and the children try all sorts of foods at snack time so we can share that info as well if that would help with new ideas – just let us know and we can add your child to “snack watch”!

The children are really enjoying their lunches with us and while we do not want to be the “lunchbox police” we would prefer children to have a little pot of crisps rather than a whole bag and only one sweet item please. There are some brilliant dinosaur shaped sandwiches in their lunch boxes and lovely fruits, and we are also teaching the children about recycling at lunch time, and they are brilliant at giving me their yoghurt pot to wash and cling film to recycle.

If you have any worries about your child's eating habits or health, please let us know and we can help and refer you on for more support from a health visitor.

Helpful Teeth Cleaning Links: -

[Children's teeth - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

[Sing along with The Toothbrush song from Hey Duggee - CBeebies - BBC](#)

[PowerPoint Presentation \(healthyteethdevon.nhs.uk\)](http://healthyteethdevon.nhs.uk)



Don't forget to check out the weekly blog on our website! It's full of information about our sessions across the week with lots of photos of many of our activities.

How we share information with parents – There are so many ways that we share information with parents including Home Visit, Taster Session, New Parents Evening, Newsletter, Website and weekly blog/plan for the week, Parent Consultation Meetings, White Boards, Parent Notice Board (reception area), Parent Questionnaire – annual and new in-take, Key worker feedback, Parent comment slip (on newsletter), Wow moments slip (on newsletter), Text Messaging Service, End of session key worker feedback and Facebook.



Reminder re telephone calls and text messages



Absence line - we have a dedicated absence line on our main telephone number which is regularly checked. Please clearly leave your name, your child's name and the reason for their absence. If your child is poorly, please give details of their specific ailment so that we can record the reason for your child's absence.

Main Line - If you need to speak to us on the telephone, please try to avoid calling around drop off and pick up time - often there is only one person in the office, so we are unable to answer all calls at busy times. Alternatively, leave a message on our answerphone and we will call you back as quickly as we can. While Mandy Goff is absent from the office please can we remind you to call the mobile if no-one answers the office line.

Text Messages - Our text message system is so useful for circulating information quickly - we often use it for reminders, requests for donations, lost property or session updates. We only have 160 characters to use per message so please bear with us if the messages appear a little abrupt!

Poorly Children – If your child appears to be under the weather please consider if they are well enough to cope with a busy session/day at pre-school before sending them in. Please do not send your child/children to pre-school if they have a raised temperature. A quiet sofa day at home is very different from a busy pre-school session. If your child is off with sickness, please do not send them into pre-school for a period of 48 hours from the last time they were sick. If your child has a high temperature, please do not send them back to pre-school for at least 24 after their fever has ended. Thank you.



Family selfies – have you sent in your family selfie to Amelia yet for our preschool display? The children love looking at the photos and telling their friends about their family. If you would like to be included in the display, please send your image via email.

Wet Wipes - If your child wears nappies or pull-ups to pre-school please remember to send in your own wet wipes and nappy bags with your child's nappy supply and spare clothes. Thank you.



Family Photo Session - We have Concept Photography coming into pre-school on Sunday 22nd October 2023 from 9.30 am. Everyone is welcome so please tell your family and friends. You can book a slot by adding your details to the form on the lunch trolley or by calling the office.

Today is the start of our Pumpkin

Colouring Competition! Pick up a pumpkin template from the reception area or lunch trolley. Once your entry is complete hand it in to the office together with a £1 entry fee (you may enter as many times as you wish). The entries will be divided into age brackets of pre-school age children, i.e., ages 2, 3 and 4. The closing date is Thursday 2nd November (the week after half term). Please ensure that your child's/children's names and ages are written on the back of each entry.



Date	Details
Sunday 22 nd October 2023 from 9.30 am	Family Photo Shoot at Pre-School
Monday 23 rd to Friday 27 th October 2023	HALF TERM – pre-school is closed
Thursday 2 nd November 2023	Closing date for Pumpkin Colouring Competition
Monday 6 th November 2023	Open Event at St Andrew's School for school starters in September 2024 (we will advise you of events at other local primary schools when dates are available).
Friday 17 th November 2023	Children in Need Spotacular fundraiser – come to pre-school wearing spots!
Tuesday 12 th December 2023	Pre-school Christmas Party/Nativity – an email was sent on 9 th October 2023.



Flatbreads (makes 4)

250g self raising flour
 150ml water
 1 tsp oil
 pinch of salt
 2 tsp mixed herbs or paprika
 (or whatever you wish to flavour)



Mix all ingredients together in a bowl and knead well. Add some more flour if it's a bit wet still (it shouldn't be sticky). Divide dough into 4 equal parts. Sprinkle flour onto work surface and roll dough flat until approximately 1cm thick.

Put a bit of oil in a frying pan and cook each side for a couple minutes or until slightly browned. Enjoy!

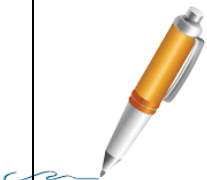
Here are some spooky Halloween craft ideas that you might like to try at home!



We would like to wish all our families a wonderful half term break!

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Got something you would like to tell us? Your child has had a 'wow' moment? You would like to give us some feedback or make a suggestion? Do you have any worries or concerns? You would like to share a healthy recipe with us? Use this slip to tell us anything at all! Post the slip into our post box in reception



If your comments are confidential, please put into an envelope and mark 'Confidential – for the attention of the Pre-school Leader'.