


# Newsletter

## February 2024

### Spring 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](mailto:admin@cullomptonpreschool.org) Our website address is [www.cullomptonpreschool.org](http://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.

**Committee Meetings** – The next committee meeting will take place at **7.30 pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024** via Microsoft Teams. Committee meetings are open to all parents, we would welcome your support. If you would like to join the meeting, please let the office know and we will send you the link.



You will be receiving a letter and a sponsorship form soon for your child for our **Sponsored Bike Ride Event!** This event will take place **week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024** across all days of the week to accommodate the sessions of every child. This is a fun fundraising event for all of our children. Please do not worry if your child doesn't ride a bike - they can ride a

scooter, they can push a dolly in a pram or they can hitch a ride with a friend on a double trike! There's no need to bring in a bike or scooter etc - we have enough at pre-school for the children to use. As with all fundraising events we would love some volunteers to help us encourage the children to complete their 10 laps of the pre-school garden.

The event will, of course, be supervised by pre-school staff. If you are able to help please call the office.



We are so excited to be able to have a Summer Fete this year! It's going to be held on **Saturday 22<sup>ND</sup> June** from 11 am to 2 pm – **please save the date!** This is our biggest fundraiser and such a fun event for all ages. We really need donations for our "Pick your prize", if you can donate anything please bring it in and let the office have it – thank you!



## Role play

Role play is a really enjoyable area of our work with the children, there are so many ways to bring learning into the mix and to support emotional development and speech development. Children can join in whatever stage they are at and they can make friends, learn about how to manage conflict (everyone wants the best tea pot!) and even work on physical development all at the same time!

This half term we will be celebrating Chinese New Year by having a Chinese restaurant inside. We will look at the different style of writing, the colours, the foods, we will try prawn crackers and noodles, we count out plates for our friends, lay the table, we use our mark making skills to take orders and write out menus. We use our strength to bring chairs over for more people to join us and we learn new vocabulary as well. The set we chose to set up for the children comes from their interests and we can weave in so much learning. Next week we are getting out the dressing up – lots of different outfits to see where the children take the ideas and we can then use this for our planning for the coming weeks as well. We know Spiderman and superheroes are always popular and we can use those characters to talk about conflict – the children will be using vocabulary such as “goodies” and “baddies” and we can do a lot of work on being kind and it is definitely a hard lesson when there are no more superman outfits left and someone has to wait for a turn!

Hospitals and Vets are always popular with lots of very caring children, exploring equipment and new language, and they can bring their own experiences into the chatter and share what they know with us.

Home corner play is also really beneficial. Children who may lack confidence to join in some role play will be happy and settled in a play that is familiar to them, based on what happens at home they can re-enact without talking to friends. They can offer cups of tea, plates of food and smile away and begin to play with other children, building confidence to join in other games as well.

Keep an eye on our blog for photo's of the role play we plan and enjoy!

**Garden Working Party** – The Committee would like to start a garden working party to help keep the Pre-School garden looking tidy and keep it maintained. This will be discussed at the Committee Meeting Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March but in the meantime if you are interested please let the office know.



**Trips and Outings** - We absolutely love taking our school starter children out on local trips including St Andrew's Church, the library, primary schools, local shops. Our adult to child ratio is much higher when we are not in our setting so we are reliant on parents, carers and grandparents to help us out. We generally go out in groups of about twelve children so if you receive a text message asking if you can help it means that your child is included in this trip. We completely understand that parents work and have other commitments but any help at all is hugely appreciated - we can't go on outings without parental support. **We'd like to say a really BIG thank to all our recent volunteers, we hope you enjoyed our trips!**



**Sickness** – You will already be aware of how many coughs, colds and high temperatures are about at the moment. If your child is feeling unwell please do not send them into pre-school. A quiet day at home on the sofa is very different from a busy session at pre-school. If you have had to give your child medication such as Calpol we would ask you to consider whether they are feeling well enough to attend. If your child has a high temperature please keep them off pre-school for at least 24 hours after the high temperature has subsided. We know how stressful it can be juggling with family life, jobs, younger or older siblings and school runs, we really do understand but in order to try and keep our children and staff healthy we would ask you to follow this guidance.



Just a friendly reminder...

Please only put a small pot of crisps in lunch boxes rather than a whole packet – thank you.

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**Christmas cards and gifts - Thank you to everyone who ordered Christmas cards and gifts last year. It raised us £79.01!**

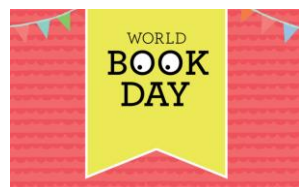
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**Valentine's Colouring Competition** - Pick up a Valentine's template from the reception area or lunch trolley. Once entry is complete hand it in to the office together with a £1 entry fee (you may enter as many times as you like). The closing date is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Please ensure that your child/children's names are written on each entry.



**Valentine's Fundraiser** - we would like to thank Becky Collins for the beautiful hearts and roses she made for us to sell leading up to Half Term - this raised us amazing £68!!

**World Book Day - Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023** - All children will receive a £1 book token which can be used to collect a free book from selected retailers or can be put towards the purchase of other books costing £2.99 or more. To see the full list of free books available visit [worldbookday.com](http://worldbookday.com) - Free books available while stocks last.



**World Book Day Dress Up - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 1st March 2023** - children are invited to bring in their favourite book to share (please ensure this is named) and to dress up as their favourite book character for any session during this week. We celebrate World Book Day across the week so that all children have an opportunity to take part.

**Walk to the Moon** - Don't forget to log your miles, there is a form on the lunch trolley. A totaliser will be on display soon.

**Easter Bingo** - Our Easter Bingo is being held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March at the Town Hall in Cullompton. The doors open at 6.30pm and eyes down at 7.30pm. Come and join us to win some great prizes!



**“Wow” Moments** – we love to receive “wow” moments from you (there is a form at the end of the newsletter) – here is an example of one we received recently:

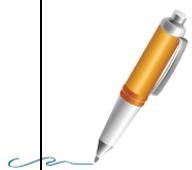
“We would just like to say a huge “thank you” to all the amazing, hardworking, kind and caring staff at Cullompton Pre-School for helping our child to settle. He really seems to be settling in well and that’s all thanks to your hard work. So thank you for giving him the best start!!”



Date	Details
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Half Term – pre-closed is closed for sessions
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	Dress up as a favourite book character for any session this week
Thursday 7 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024	World Book Day
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Committee Meeting via Teams – 7.30 pm – all welcome!
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Deadline to return your child’s bike ride sponsorship form
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Easter bingo – Doors open 6.30pm, Eyes down 7.30pm
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 22 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Sponsored Bike Ride Event
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Last day of Spring Term
29 <sup>th</sup> March – 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Easter Holidays (Pre-school is closed)
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	First day of Summer Term
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2024	SUMMER FETE 11 am until 2 pm

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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 or hand in at the office.....



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