

*s*

**Newsletter**

**September 2024**

AutumnTerm

**A thumb up symbol with a white background

Description automatically generatedContacts –** 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](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.

A **big** welcome back to all our families, those that are continuing their journey with us and those that are just beginning. We are very much looking forward to the Autumn term and all the fun it brings!

A note with a red push pin

Description automatically generated

Our **Annual General Meeting** will be held on 30th September 2024 at 7.30pm via Teams on-line. Please show your support to staff and committee by attending this very important meeting. **It is important that each child is represented by a parent or carer at this meeting**. As a charity the pre-school cannot operate unless we have a committee. If you would like more information regarding the AGM, the committee and officer roles please email our Chairperson [chairperson@cullomptonpreschool.org](mailto:chairperson@cullomptonpreschool.org) or [admin@cullomptonpreschool.org](mailto:admin@cullomptonpreschool.org) for more information. You will receive an email shortly inviting you to the meeting.

Message from Amelia (Pre-School Leader)

Dear Families

We follow the early years foundation stage (have a look on our website for info on the EYFS and our curriculum) and each year for your child we put together learning journeys for children, we have a scrap book style learning journey containing photos and observations and each key person has a separate notebook for ideas for home learning and skills we have noticed and areas to practice.

We use time with our key children to look at the photos together, to help us build our relationships with them and with you and this will have some lovely family info and a record of their days out and Forest School. We also follow progress for all children and will let you know if your child is “on track” or if they need a bit of “nurture” in some areas. We will have a meeting as a team this half term to chat over how the children have settled in and we will then pass their book to you for comments and for you to see the layout.

As we build our use of Tapestry a section of the learning journey will be available to you on that app. This may include information from us on our teaching, home learning ideas and a couple of photos.

Any questions please chat to your key person or to me.

Amelia

A red and blue logo

Description automatically generatedA blue and yellow sign with white text

Description automatically generatedWe are part of a scheme with Tesco and Aldi to ensure food does not get thrown away.  Each week we will take delivery of a quantity of food that Tesco and Aldi has passed to us to use for the children’s snack and to share with our families.

We often receive bread and bakery items as these have a shorter sell by date.  Occasionally we receive fruit, vegetables and some treat items.

Could you benefit from receiving an extra bag of groceries each week?  Do you have anyone else in your family that needs a little extra help?  Could a grandparent, friend or neighbour benefit from this scheme?

This a discreet and confidential service.  A text message is sent when your grocery bag is ready for collection from our reception area any time during pre-school hours or at the same time that you collect your child.

Please send us an email to [admin@cullomptonpreschool.org](mailto:admin@cullomptonpreschool.org) with your name and the words ‘Fare Share’ if you would like to take part. Alternatively, you can text us on the pre-school mobile (number at the top of this newsletter) with the words ‘Fare Share’ and your child’s name.

**\*We are also looking for volunteers to collect our Fareshare from Tesco on Tuesday evenings on a rota basis. With enough parental help this might mean that you only need to collect maybe once or twice a month. please email the office if you can help or would like more details.\***

**Morning drop off** – we open our doors at 9.05 am – children are dropped at the main entrance and will be greeted by a member of staff. A member of staff from the office will ask you to tell us who will be collecting your child at the end of their session. In order to reduce congestion at drop off time we would ask that wherever possible questions and queries are emailed to us.

**Lunch Boxes and Drink Bottles** – Please put your child’s lunch box on the lunch trolley (usually placed outside during morning drop off) and put their drink bottle onto the drink trolley which will be next to the lunch trolley at morning drop off. Whilst the weather is still warm please remember to put an ice pack in your child’s lunch box. **Please do not add squash to the water bottles – we are required to support good oral health by Ofsted as part of our curriculum.**

**Absences** – our office phone lines are usually manned from 8.30 am. If you are calling to report your child as absent, please leave a message on our absence line (accessed through our landline number) stating your child’s name and the reason for their absence. If your child is due into session and doesn’t arrive it is our procedure to contact parents/carers.

**Lunch time collection** – children need to be collected by 12:05pm, but to avoid congestion with children being dropped off for the afternoon session, we may open our doors a few minutes earlier to for collecting. Please be prompt so that we can allow our afternoon children to be dropped off.

**Lunch time drop off** is 12.05pm – our morning children need to be collected before we can allow you in so please bear with us.

**End of day collection** – We will open our doors at 3:05pm for collections. The nominated adult who is collecting your child (the person that you advised us of at the time of drop off) will be shown into the building to collect your child and chat with their keyperson.

**Our Gate** – please ensure that you close our main gate behind you when entering or exiting the preschool – although we have security doors at pre-school, ensuring that the gate remains closed at drop-off and pick up times gives us have another layer of safety for our children.

**Text Messaging Service** – we do try to keep messages to a minimum but our text messaging service is the easiest way to contact parents/carers with short messages or requests. We should explain that messages are limited to 160 characters so it is not always possible to add ‘pleases or thanks yous’ so we apologise for this in advance! If you aren’t receiving text messages from us or you would like a relative added, please let the office know as soon as possible.

A white plastic basket on a white background

Description automatically generatedEvery child has a named clear basket in the cloakroom underneath their coat peg. We use this to store artwork and your child’s information that needs to be sent home to you. Please empty your basket each time you collect your child.

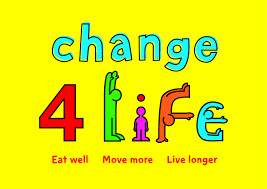
A lunch box full of food

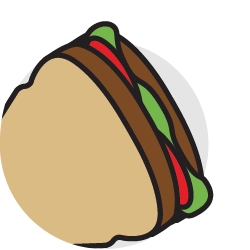
Description automatically generated

**We are a ‘nut free setting’**

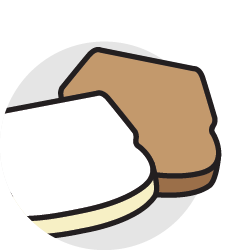
Please ensure that your child’s lunch does not include nuts or products that contain nuts such as cereal bars, peanut butter or chocolate spread. We also do not allow sweets, chocolate bars, crisps, or fizzy drinks.

We are passionate about healthy lunch boxes here at pre-school! Thank you to all the parents that have followed our guidelines. If you are stuck for ideas, ask us for a lunch time leaflet. If you have any ideas or recipes for healthy lunch boxes, please let us know, we’d love to share with other parents.

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwi_lN_e4OnRAhUDlxoKHbNvBEkQjRwIBw&url=http://www.nhs.uk/change4life/Pages/brand-assets.aspx&psig=AFQjCNGHnCBguP-1yCfxFs1M_5rIysYcmQ&ust=1485861813923425) **Lunchbox tips**

**Keep them fuller for longer**

Base your child’s lunchbox on foods like bread, rice, pasta and potatoes. Choose wholegrain where you can.

**Mix your slices**

If your child doesn't like wholegrain, try making a sandwich from one slice of white bread and one slice of wholemeal/brown bread.

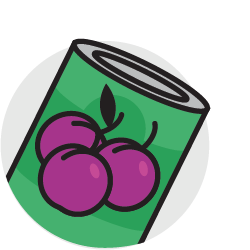


**DIY lunches**

Wraps and pots of fillings can be more exciting for kids when they get to put them together. Dipping foods are also fun and make a change from a sandwich each day.



**Ever green**

 Always add salad to sandwiches – it all counts towards your child's 5 A DAY.

**Tinned fruit counts**

A small pot of tinned fruit in juice – not syrup – is perfect for their lunchbox and is easily stored in the cupboard.



Logo

Description automatically generated**LAUNCH INTO LANGUAGE**

Parents!

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT ANY OF THESE?

* My child is unable to maintain attention for more than a few moments.
* My child isn’t able to follow simple instructions
* My child is not saying many words for their age
* My child is not producing the right sounds for certain words
* My child cannot socially interact with children their own age
* It is difficult for my child to have a two-way conversation

**Then Pre-school can help**

Ask us about our **new** and **exclusive** speech and language programme: **Launch into Language**

Designed to cover all areas of communication and interaction!

Please speak to Andrea, Louise W or Amelia for more information

**We are now offering wraparound care at Cullompton Preschool.**

The sessions are-fee paying and your funding can’t be used in these clubs.

The cost is £6.75 per hour and we can charge per half hour as needed and payable in advance.

You are also welcome to use these as drop in sessions and book in a couple of days before as needed to suit your busy life!

**Breakfast Club – 8.05-9.05am on WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY**

(we may be able to open TUESDAY – TBC)

**After School Club – 3.05-4.35 on WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY**

The wraparound care is a really lovely time for the children who come. They are welcomed into a warm pre-school, they help to lay out the badges for the day and choose toys and have breakfast together. We offer toast or healthy cereal and milk or water and the children help themselves to their breakfast. Lots of independence is encouraged and then it is time to play with our experienced team until their friends arrive at 9.05am. We continue to follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework during our wraparound clubs and continue to observe the children, work on any gaps they may have and nurture time is available as well. The sessions are child led and the current favourite game is to play “teachers”! It is wonderful to see the small group enjoy time together in a quieter session. The After School Clubs also have a snack time around 3.30pm and chat away.

**FOREST SCHOOL**

Our Sun and Moon Groups will start having Forest School this week on Thursday and Friday mornings. Each half term we swap the groups over so every child in those groups will be able to enjoy Forest School. Our Star group will also be able to access Forest School on various days throughout the year, we will let you know of these dates nearer the time.

The timetable for this half term is –

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **THURSDAY MORNINGS** | **FRIDAY MORNINGS** |
| 19th Sept until 25th Oct 2024 | Sun Group | Moon Group |
| 7th Nov until 13th Dec 2024 | Moon Group | Sun Group |

A thank you message with red leaves

Description automatically generatedWe would like to say a BIG thank you to our families that very kindly looked after our Stick Insects over the summer holidays.

So thank you very much to –

Eddie Shere’s family

Harrison Cook’s family

Kaeshan Srithiran’s family

Alice Knight’s family

For all our parents of children that attend our Preschool, there is a private Facebook Group you can join that you might find useful.

Some of the Committee members are part of the group, so they might be able to let you know some information that you might need or answer some questions you might have (ie. days that Preschool is closed or when we reopen etc)

The link for the group is below and we hope you find it useful!

<https://www.facebook.com/share/AEtYegxQiBvUT2Jx/?mibextid=K35XfP>

**We look forward to seeing you at our Bingo session this Saturday at Cullompton Town Hall!**

**Opens at 6:30pm and eyes down at 7:30pm**

CONCEPT PHOTOGRAPHY

We have a photographer coming to Preschool on Sunday 20th October from 9:30am onwards. They will be available to take photos of individuals, families or groups. There will be a list of timings available to book in on the lunch trolley at Preschool. Alternatively you can email us – admin@cullomptonpreschool.org

A pink rectangular object with black text

Description automatically generated

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Details** |
| Saturday 21st September 2024 | **Bingo @ Town Hall – opens 6:30pm, eyes down 7:30pm** |
| Monday 30th September 2024 | **Annual General Meeting @ 7:30pm** |
| Sunday 20th October 2024 | **Concept Photography from 9:30am onwards @ Preschool** |
| Monday 28th Oct – Friday 1st Nov 2024 | **HALF TERM \*\* Pre-school is closed \*\*** |

"……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

A close-up of a pen

Description automatically generated**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’