




Newsletter

September 2025

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. Don't forget to check Tapestry for info and updates too!

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!



Our **Annual General Meeting** will be held on 29th September 2025 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 or admin@cullomptonpreschool.org for more information. You will have already received an email inviting you to the meeting, please ensure you reply. Thank you!

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.

You are able to see your child's learning journey with us on Tapestry, so please make sure you have a look on it. 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

We 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 is a discreet and confidential service. A memo is sent to you on Tapestry when your grocery bag is ready for collection, the bag will be in our reception area any time during pre-school hours.

Please send us an email to 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. If 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 8.45 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 open our doors at 12pm 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 can 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, this gives us another layer of safety for our children.

Tapestry and Emails – We send a lot of our information to our parents through Tapestry, including accident forms, so please ensure you have 'notifications' turned on your device for the Tapestry app. If you have any problems activating or logging in, please contact the office. Please let us know if you haven't received any emails from us.



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.

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

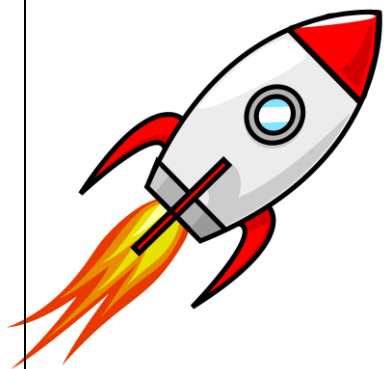
Always add salad to sandwiches – it all counts towards your child's 5 A DAY.



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.





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

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
18 th Sept until 24 th Oct 2025	Sun Group	Moon Group
6 th Nov until 12 th Dec 2025	Moon Group	Sun Group



Every 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.

Wraparound care at Cullompton Preschool

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

The cost is £7.50 for Breakfast Club and £10 for Afterschool Club. These payments are 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 TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

After School Club – 3.05-4.35pm on TUESDAY, 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.

Our attendance for Breakfast and Afterschool Club are currently very low this year, if you are interested in using our clubs please contact the office. Sadly, if we don't have more children attend, we might not be able to sustain offering these clubs.

CONCEPT PHOTOGRAPHY

We have a photographer coming to Preschool on **Sunday 19th 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 soon. Alternatively you can email us – admin@cullomptonpreschool.org**

Requests for Volunteers throughout the Term!

We are hoping to arrange some local trips for our older children in Sun and Moon Groups in this term. For these trips, we rely on parents/carers to help us walk the children to and from where we are visiting. So please keep an eye out on Tapestry for requests for volunteers!

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>



Date	Details
Monday 29 th September 2025	Annual General Meeting @ 7:30pm (via Teams)
Sunday 19 th October 2025	Concept Photography from 9:30am onwards @ Preschool
Monday 27 th Oct – Friday 31 st Oct 2025	HALF TERM ** Pre-school is closed **

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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

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