



Newsletter

November 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! 

Dear families

We are working on promoting a love of reading and stories in our pre-school and will be reading fairy tales in our pretend castle and stories at lunchtime and the end of every day!

It is so important that children are read to every night/every day and this really helps with their brain development and it is crucial for children to love stories and books, it is so helpful if you draw attention to the pictures and the characters and talk about what is happening in the book. Please let us know your child's favourite book and they can bring it in to share with their friends. Reading with your little children can improve their outcomes for school, bringing the books to life with different voices and facial expressions will be really engaging for your child!

Amelia (Pre-school Leader)

How to Apply for a Primary School Place in Devon

If your child was born between 1st Sept 2021 and 31st Aug 2022 they are due to start Primary School in Sept 2026.

You can apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

From 15th November 2025 to 15th January 2026.

Devon Admissions team can be contacted at admissions@devon.gov.uk

Parents of children with **food allergies** will be aware that we put measures into place to ensure that their allergies are understood and monitored by all pre-school staff. The housekeeper, who usually prepares the session snack, is aware of every child that has a special requirement regarding food items and ingredients. A file containing comprehensive information about each child's allergy or intolerance is available for all staff to view. With parental permission, a 'head shot' photo of each child with a food allergy or intolerance is always displayed in our kitchen area so that all staff are aware – this is particularly useful in the early weeks of a new academic year whilst we get to know the children. All parents will have noticed that we display snack boards outside so that you are aware of the food items that have been offered during each session. Allergen information regarding any food prepared or offered during the session is also available to view each day at pick up times.



REMINDER! Choking is one of the leading causes of death for children under 3.



Even if your child is confident eating solid foods, a grape, a cherry tomato, a blueberry, a strawberry or a cocktail sausage is just the right size to get stuck in their windpipe. Please cut grapes, cherry tomatoes and strawberries into quarters – long ways is the best

way according to advice. Please cut blueberries in half. Cocktail sausages should be cut longways and then into six small pieces.

If staff have their heads down cutting up grapes etc during pre-school lunch times, they are unable to watch the other children. Your assistance with cutting up these items in advance is essential – thank you.



Thank you to the families that came along to our family photo shoot on Sunday 19th October.

Your orders are being sent off shortly and we will give them out to you when they have arrived. This event is for fundraising and we will let you know how much we raised very soon!

Children's Christmas Artwork – 'Class Fundraising'



You should have received your child's xmas artwork recently, they are lovely! The deadline for orders is **Monday 17th November** so please make sure you have ordered by then! We will let you know when your orders have arrived and will give them out to you as and when we see you.

Please join us for our annual Christmas Bingo Night!



We'd like to say a big thank you to all the families that have kindly donated items to us when requested so far this term. We really do appreciate all the help!

We have some lovely trips planned for our Sun & Moon Groups in the upcoming months.

We always need volunteers to help us walk the children to and from Preschool and we love to see you enjoy the trip along with us, wherever we might be going!

Information about the trips and requests for volunteers are always sent via 'memo' on Tapestry so please keep an eye out and if you can help then please let us know. These trips can not go ahead without your help! Thank you!



FOREST SCHOOL

Forest School will swap over for our Sun and Moon Groups after Half Term 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
6 th Nov until 5 th Dec 2025	Moon Group	Sun Group
8 th Jan until 13 th Feb 2026	Sun Group	Moon Group

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>

Diary Dates

Date	Details
Monday 17 th November 2025	Deadline for ordering your child's Xmas artwork from 'Class Fundraising'
Monday 1 st December 2025	Sun Group – Singing at Culm Valley Care Centre – info has been sent via Tapestry to the parents whose children are going
Friday 5 th December 2025	Moon Group – Singing at Culm Valley Care Centre – info has been sent via Tapestry to the parents whose children are going
Saturday 6 th December 2025	Bingo at Culmington Town Hall
Thursday 11 th December 2025	Pre-School is closed for normal sessions. All children have been invited to our Christmas party for either the morning <u>OR</u> afternoon session – you will receive your invite letter shortly telling you which session your child will be attending.
Wednesday 17 th December 2025	Last Day of Autumn Term
Monday 5 th January 2026	First Day of Spring Term

Parent Feedback



Each year we send out a couple of surveys to capture your views on your experiences with us, the first of which has recently been sent out to ask for your views as “new starters” and the second one is a “Key Person questionnaire” which will ask your views on the relationships and experience you have and other areas of our provision as well.

We look forward to reading the surveys and we really like to read comments about your experience to give us ideas for improvement and areas that you really like about pre-school life!