

November/December 2025

Hello everyone and welcome back. A huge welcome to our new families. I hope you find this newsletter helpful however please don't hesitate to ask if you have any queries or concerns. Some helpful information:

OFSTED NUMBER: (0300 123 1231) can be found on the noticeboard, in the policy and procedures, the welcome pack and your child's learning journal.

EARLY HELP: Early help is North Yorkshires new approach to ensure families receive the right support at the right time to stop problems escalating. Early help can support you in many ways including advice, parenting support, behavioural issues and much more. For more information research early help north Yorkshire council or please feel free to speak to a member of staff. Our designated safeguarding lead practitioner (DSL) is Lesley Dawson.

TIME KEEPING: It is very important when picking your child up you adhere to their finish time. If your child finishes at 1.00 please pick them up at 1.00 not 1.05 and again if your child finishes at 3.00 please collect them at 3 not 3.05, staff work to a rota, and it is our paramount to adhere to ratios. If you cannot keep to your child's time, emails will be sent, and possible late fees will be given out if staff must stay until your child is collected this also implies on your child's drop off time. Please remember the outer door will be unlocked at 8.55ish but we can not let your child until 9am, this is again to adhere to ratios.

CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUN DAY: A date for your dairy. We will be holding our Christmas family fun day Thursday 11th December 1.45-3.15pm. More details will follow; Everyone is invited!!

TOMBOLA/RAFFLE: We are kindly asking for raffle/tombola prizes for our Christmas family day. Please leave any donations in the entrance or pass over to a member of staff.

WANTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Thank you to all the parents who came to our last committee meeting. As you may not be aware, pre school is ran as a charity. This means we are a non-profit organisation. A committee is a group of people (ideally parents) who are responsible of every day running of the setting. If you are interested in joining the committee, please speak to a member of staff.

RISK ASSESSMENTS: If your child has a risk assessment in place it is parents/carers responsibility to notify staff of any changes whilst they attend pre-school.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS: If your child is due to start school in September 2026 the link to apply is now open, it will close on the 15th of January. Please see North Yorkshire Coucil/Gov.uk for more information. If you have decided you would like to defer your child, you still need to follow the same procedure. Please feel free to speak your keyperson on any information you would like regarding your child going to primary school.

CELEBRATIONS: We will continue to celebrate a variety of celebrations in pre school from different cultures. Children's birthdays will continue to be celebrated, families are welcome to bring cake in, staff will accommodate any dietary needs.

FOOD: Please remember if you give your child round fruit (grapes, olives tomatoes etc) for lunch they need cutting lengthways/quarters. All of these are a common choking hazard for young children because of the size and shape which can easily block children's airways. Please visit www.strong4life.com for more information on choking.

LUNCH BOXES: Just a few reminders, ice packs are a great way to keep the lunch cool and fresh. We offer cheese/apple/carrot sticks after they have eaten to support oral health. Please speak to your keyperson for more information. (New families please see welcome pack for "what happens at lunch club"

TEATIME: If your child stays for tea and you would like a copy of our tea menu, please let a member of staff know, all dietary needs are catered for.

DOCUMENTS: When important documents need to be given out parents/carers will be asked to sign to say they have received them.

KEYPERSON: When your child starts pre-school, they will be assigned a keyperson and a surrogate keyperson. However please remember **ALL STAFF** teach/look after your child. There will be times other members of staff see your child in at the start of the session and see them out at the end of the session.

EMAILS: If you need to let a member of staff know any important information for the same day (lateness pick-ups etc) during your child's session, please ring pre-school on 01748 812825. Due to sessions being busy staff cannot guarantee emails will be checked. Please be mindful when you email your keyperson out of working hours, they will reply within their working hours. If it is an emergency, please email pre-schools official email as this is checked out of hours.

CLOTHING: As you know we promote a lot of independence during your child's time in pre-school, please be mindful when they get dressed for pre-school that they can be as independent as possible in the bathroom. Children will also need sensible shoes as we do a lot of spontaneous activities inside and outside

PHOTOS: Please feel free to email any photos of your child's family for our family board.

EYFS- During your child's time at pre-school it is an Ofsted requirement for practitioners to follow the EYFS curriculum. For more information on this please visit EYFS framework on Gov.uk or speak to your keyperson. Information about the curriculum can be found at the front of child's learning journal it is important that you find time to read the information.

FEES: Bills are given out every term and there are options on how you can pay, for further information please speak to Mrs Dawson. Please note Mrs Dawson only completes the bills. Reminders paid/unpaid bills are on behalf of our chairperson and treasurer.

DETAILS: It is very important we have the correct details for you and your child. Please notify staff if there is a change of address, contact numbers, email address etc. Please let your keyperson know if there is a change of circumstances in your household (parent working away and so on) this will help staff support your child's well-being in the setting.

SPELLING/GRAMMER: At times spelling/ grammar errors may occur in documents and through your child's learning journal as you can imagine getting every document/email/observation/policy etc proofread is very time consuming. Some staff within the setting have previously been

diagnosed with dyslexia, support is in place for the staff members but at times you may experience spelling/grammar errors. Please be assured this does not affect how practitioners teach your child.

RED/BLUE BAGS: Please remember to check your child's pegs in case any bags need replenishing. Please remember parents are responsible for providing nappies, wipes and nappy bags, pre-school DO NOT provide these.

HOME/SCHOOL BAGS: We have lots of resources for your child to continue their learning at home, please feel free to ask your keyperson if you would like to borrow one or pop into Pre-school and chose one with your child.

NOTICES: Please take time to read the notice board. You will find staff qualifications/roles, stay and play information, holiday list, parent information and much more. Please feel free to look in the standing trolley or on the notice board in parents' information, there is lots of useful information regarding children's development.

SELF REGERSTRATION BOARD- When your child comes into pre-school to start their session, they can do the self-registration board. As we have an open-door policy, all parents/carers are welcome to come in with their child and do this with them. Please just tell the member of staff on the door that you would like to come into the setting. We try to be as flexible as possible with our open-door policy, however, to keep children safe please try and come in on a morning rather than at pick up time. If you would like to see more of your child within the session, please book a stay and play session, speak to your keyperson for more information.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES- Just a reminder that all our Policies and Procedures are available from a link on our website or paper copies in the foyer. All parents sign to say that you have looked at them when completing each child's registration form.

LEADERSHIP DROP-IN SESSION: The leader (Becky Monaghan) is always available if you would like to chat in the setting, however, to make even more time for our families to chat with the leader, you can come to the drop-in session which takes place in the hall. This is a great opportunity for you to discuss any concerns/issues or just to have a chat. Please feel free to drop in on the 19th November 9-11am I look forward to seeing you.

CLOTHES BANK: At the main entrance we have a small clothes bank, please feel free to add any unwanted clothing and take any for your family.

EMAILS: If you require any information regarding funding, additional sessions, staying for tea and so on please email scortonpreschool1@live.co.uk

IMPORTANT DATES:

REMINDER, PRE-SCHOOL CLOSSES 11TH DECEMBER 3.30PM 12TH DECEMBER IS PARTY DAY! ALL PARENTS HAVE HAD A LETTER REGARDING THIS CLOSURE, PLEASE IGNORE THE HOLIDAY LIST ON THE WEBSITE.

NOVEMBER:

11TH Remembrance Day, your child is welcome to wear red.

14th Children in need (Dress up/dress down/wear spots)

30TH St Andrews Day, we will celebrate this 28th November, your child is more than welcome to wear blue.

DECEMBER:

W/C 8th we will have lots of Christmas activities happening every day.

11TH Christmas family fun afternoon 1.45-3.15 all parents/grandparents/younger siblings will be invited (more information will follow soon)

11th END of term 3.30, please note there will no tea on this date as pre-school closes 3.30pm

12th Christmas party 11.00-1.00pm (more information will follow soon)

(Monday 5th January teacher training day)

Tuesday 6th January: Pre-school re opens

I really hope I have covered everything! The most important thing is that you as parents are confident that your child is safe and happy! Please don't hesitate to ask if you want any more information or just a general chat. You can contact our chairperson at:

kelliwallace04@outlook.com

Becky and team