

Spring 2024 Newsletter

Happy New Year and Welcome Back! We've had a lovely first week back at Preschool. You may have spotted a new face – we have now welcomed Gemma, our new Early Years Practitioner to our team – who is very lovely and all of the children are enjoying getting to know her.

Here is what we are up to this half term...

This term our theme is – **What is the Weather?!**

We will be talking about different types of weather, recording the weather each day and experiencing it first hand by spending lots of time outside! We will be making a rain gauge to measure the rainfall and looking at shadows. We are continuing our important work with the Eco-committee and will be celebrating 'Penguin Awareness Day', as well as joining in with the 'Big Garden Birdwatch'. Our Eco-focus this term is 'Energy', so we will be talking about different ways to save energy. In Maths we are making sure we understand the cardinality of numbers and that groups of objects can be separated in different ways, but the total stays the same. In Phonics we are noticing syllables and using claps to tap out the number of syllables in our names. We are also continuing to encourage mark-making in all areas of play, such as making lists, labels and signs.

Dates for your diary –

- **Week Monday 29th January – Friday 2nd February – National Story telling week**

For the whole of the week, we are inviting parents to come in and read a story to the children! This is a lovely way to share a favourite story and the children are always so proud to have their special person in Preschool. There will be times available to book in the week prior, and it can be a mum, dad, or even a grandparent who comes in to read. The slots are just 10 minutes long to ensure it keeps their attention and focus.

- **Thursday 15th February – Valentines Day Stay and Play**

Parents are invited in for a Stay and Play Session from 2-3pm. We will be doing Valentines crafts and activities.

- **Week of 19th-25th February – Preschool closed for Half Term**

We finish at 3pm on Friday 16th Feb and return on Monday 26th Feb at 9:00am as usual.