Newsletter

Welcome to the second half of our autumn term. There is always lots happening in November, and we also begin the exciting countdown to all things Christmas! Read below for more news; please also take note of our housekeeping page that contains some important and useful information.

What we've been up to…
Our Halloween theme dressing up week brought lots of colours and different characters into preschool, it was good fun to dress up. We celebrated Diwali and created some amazing Diwali lamps and we have also used fabulous colours, glitter and shapes to create amazing firework pictures. We created poppies for Remembrance Day and the children have been enjoying time in the garden and collecting all the colourful leaves. Festive season is fast approaching! It will soon be time for glitter, sparkles, singing, tree decorating and lots of Christmas fun.

Children in Need
We will be joining in with Children in Need on Friday 14th November. We've got some fun activities and staff will be having a pyjama dress up day on Friday. Children are welcome to dress up in pyjamas or in anything they love to wear! We will have a collection bucket in preschool during the week, donations aren't necessary but if you'd like to put in a few pennies for Children in Need, please do!

AGM & Parent Meetings
Please don't forget the AGM on Thursday 20th November at 7pm at Kempshott Under Fives. Your attendance is important. Emails with full details have been sent – we will soon send out a reminder of the full details. Parent meetings with your child's key carer will take place at the AGM where you will hear all about your child's progress and staff can answer any questions. **We still need more volunteers to join the Preschool Management Committee,** if you are keen to get more involved in supporting the preschool, please let Louise know.

January Sessions
If you have requested additional sessions for January, these have now been confirmed. If you haven't received an email, or you wish to add more sessions, please let us know. If you haven't requested any extra hours your sessions will remain the same. For those changing hours, please complete a new funding form!

Christmas Party
We will be having a Christmas party for ALL children on the morning of Thursday 18th December. Plans are taking shape and we will email out more details closer to the time. Please save the date for ALL children to come in and celebrate with us.

Christmas songs in the Church
We will be singing in church for the tea at two ladies on Tuesday 9th December and we will also have songs around the Christmas tree on Thursday 11th December - we would love parents to come in and join us and join in the singing on 11th December at 2pm!

Wellies
We access the garden a lot through the day and it is now becoming much wetter and muddier – so please send your child with (named) wellies and raincoats every time they come to preschool.

Preschool Taster Session for Prospective Families
We are trying to boost our waitlist numbers and raise awareness of our lovely preschool, so we are hosting an open day play session to prospective preschool families on Monday 17th November at 1pm. Please help us spread the word to any families that might be looking for a preschool for this academic year or next, and invite them along to see us on 17th November.

House Keeping

NO NUTS in lunchboxes, NO POPCORN in lunchboxes & PLEASE SLICE GRAPES

We have children in preschool with **severe allergies** to nuts and traces of nuts. We are a completely **nut-free** preschool so please don't include nuts, or nut-based products (Including chocolate spread) in packed lunches. Please **DO NOT PACK POPCORN**, this is a choking hazard and always **SLICE GRAPES AND MINI SAUSAGES** - whole grapes are a serious choking hazard to preschoolers, please slice lengthways..

Healthy Eating

We promote healthy eating for our children at Kempshott Under Fives – please could you support this by packing healthy options for your child in their lunchbox. Healthy options could include breadsticks, sugar free jelly, fromage frais and malt loaf. Little tubs of vegetables sticks and/or cubed fruit are also great lunchbox choices. **Please remember to pack spoons for yoghurts and a drink or water bottle.**

Asthma Inhalers

If your child has asthma and has been prescribed an inhaler, please ensure you bring an inhaler and spacer into preschool with your child. Please do not leave these in bags – please hand to a member of staff.

Wellies and waterproofs

Please could you always send your child with (named) wellies and waterproofs! We use the garden whatever the weather, and we have lots of water play all year round too. Unfortunately we cannot store any personal items or clothes at preschool.

Easy clothing!

At KU5s we encourage children to practice skills which make them independent, such as taking themselves to the toilet and taking off and putting on outdoor clothes (great preparation for school, especially for PE lessons!). Please could you encourage this at home and also dress your child in "easy clothing" for preschool to help them manage these tasks. Belts on trousers can be very frustrating so elasticated waists are preferable, as are Velcro straps or pull on shoes and boots.

Accidents Outside of Preschool

Please inform us at the start of your child's sessions if they have had an accident at home. It is helpful for us to know of a pre-existing injury just in case we are unsure if it happened whilst at preschool.

Quarantine Reminder for Sickness and Diarrhoea

Just a little reminder that if your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea they should not return to preschool until they have had at least 48 hours clear. This will help prevent the spread of the virus and also help protect staff from illness.

30 hours funding

If you are claiming 30 hours childcare, please remember to keep your account up to date. To keep your 30 hours funding, you need to check your details are up to date every 3 months. Go to gov.uk/childcareaccount .

Prescribed Medication

Please speak to a member of staff to ensure full details are given and recorded should your child require medication to be administered.

Help Raise Funds for our Preschool

As you know our preschool is a charity, so fund raising is vitally important to us - it helps us update and add to our toys and resources for the children. There are a couple of easy ways to help us raise some much needed additional funds - you could be helping us raise money each time you shop online...
You can raise valuable funds for our preschool when shopping online with many retailers such as John Lewis, Sainsburys, Argos, M&S and many more… Just by registering with easyfundraising.
Easyfundraising is the UK's biggest charity shopping fundraising site. It's simple to use and it doesn't cost you anything!
You could help our preschool so much, just by logging in to easyfundraising and going shopping!
- https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hatchwarrenu5s/
Once you've registered - perhaps you could spread the word to family and friends to help us raise more!

Dates for your Diary

Monday 17th November	Preschool open day taster session @1pm
Monday 25th November	AGM – 7pm. KU5's, St Mark's Church, Homesteads Road
Thursday 11th December	Singing around the Christmas Tree @ 2pm. Parents welcome!
Wednesday 17th December	Last preschool sessions
Thursday 18th December	Christmas party – all children (AM)
Friday 19th Dec – 4th January	Preschool closed. CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Monday 5th January	Return to preschool for new term

Full term dates are listed on our calendar, which you can view on our website here:
https://hatchwarren.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk/diary/list/

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