Newsletter

Welcome to 2026 and to the new spring term. We have enjoyed settling back into the preschool routine and meeting our new children. Read below for more news; please also take note of our housekeeping page that contains some important and useful information.

What we've been doing…
Welcome back to preschool. It has been lovely to see everyone and hear all about the Christmas holidays. A warm welcome to our new children, who are doing really well and settling into their new preschool. We have started the term by welcoming our new friends and familiarising all the children with the preschool routine.

What we're doing this half term
There's always lots to look forward to in our first half term after Christmas - we have Valentine's Day, Lunar New Year and Pancake Day coming up. There will be lots of fun activities, including Chinese food tasting (using chopsticks!), lots of craft for Valentines week and pancake races and flipping.

Staff news
We said a sad goodbye to Trudy this month, she is on to pastures new and will be very missed. We will be seeing more of Caroline and Adam, who the children already know, and they will be covering more sessions this year as our regular bank staff.

Upcoming day closures for 2026
A reminder that we will be closed on Tuesday February 3rd for staff training. We also have a closure date on Thursday 7th May when we will be holding parent meetings, more details will be sent out nearer to the time. All of our term dates can be found on the website here:
https://hatchwarren.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk/topic/calendar

April Sessions
We will soon be sending out forms to request extra sessions for the summer term. If you would like to request more sessions for April, please keep an eye on your email for a form. Extra sessions are not guaranteed until we have confirmed availability – all sessions that we are able to offer will be confirmed after February half term.

Hats, Gloves and Wellies
When the weather is cold, please could you pack (named) hats and gloves for your child. Also, please bring wellies as we like to make the most of the great outdoors and it is very wet and muddy at this time of year. We access the garden in all weathers, and the children love puddles! A change of clothes in bags is also really useful as we have limited spare clothing and the children love to get muddy and wet!

Consumables charge
We have introduced a small charge for consumables. Our fee is very reasonable when compared with other local settings and the monies will be used to contribute to the provisions, snacks and activities that we provide as part of our preschool day. All funded children are automatically opted in for the charge, which will be invoiced termly, but if you wish to opt out of the additional consumables charge, please email farebrotherjulie@gmail.com or speak to the preschool manager.

Tapestry
Just a reminder that you can see photos from the week on Tapestry. If you have trouble logging in, or have forgotten your password, please get in touch and we will reset your account.

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

Tuesday 3rd February	Preschool closed. Staff training
Friday 13th February	Last preschool sessions
16th-20th February	Half term
Monday 23rd February	Return to preschool
Friday 27th March	Last preschool sessions
30th March-10th April	Easter holidays
Monday 13th April	Return to preschool for summer 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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