Newsletter

It is a short half term in the lead up to Easter this year – but we have a lot to pack in! There will be lots of Easter arts and crafts and there is always chocolate at this time of year too! Read below for more news; please also take note of our housekeeping page that contains some important and useful information.

What we're up to this half term!

There is always a lot to keep us busy during this half term – we will be celebrating St David's Day, World Book Day, Mother's Day, St Patrick's Day, Red Nose Day and one of our favourites, Holi, the Hindu Festival of Colour. This is a super fun week when we use bright paints and make colourful pictures. With Easter just around the corner, we will have lots of Easter crafts and trails and maybe a bit of chocolate too!
We will continue to spend lots of time outdoors and we'll be looking out for signs of spring.
Please remember to look at your Tapestry account where you can see pictures from the week in preschool.

World Book Day

It's World Book Day on 5th March so during the whole week commencing 2nd March, we will be doing a story-inspired dress up week. The children are welcome to come into preschool dressed as a book character on any day that they would like to – you don't need to buy new, home made or simple costumes are always great. We also have lots of costumes in preschool so your child can always pick one of our outfits and dress up when they are at preschool.

Cake sale

A huge thank you to our amazing bakers and our buyers from the Valentine's cake sale. The cakes were delicious and we raised a fantastic amount of money! We will be using the money raised to go towards buying new physical activity equipment for the children.

Upcoming day closures for 2026

A reminder that preschool will be closed on Thursday 7th May. We will be holding parent meetings on this date, 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.
This year Bank holiday Monday is on 4th May, preschool will be closed.

Tapestry

Please keep looking at Tapestry every week to see photos of what the children are doing each week at preschool. If you have forgotten your login details, please let us know and we can reset your account.

Thank you!

We owe a huge thank you to John M Carter Ltd, a Basingstoke based business that specialises in marquee hire and custom canvas products, as well as a camping and calor gas refill shop. John M Carter Ltd generously created a bespoke canvas black out cover for our sensory den, his kindness has meant we have managed to make a huge cost saving to our preschool. If anyone would like to see what the company offers, please take a look at www.johnmcarterltd.co.uk.

Reminder – no nuts or nut based products

A polite reminder that we are a nut free preschool so please do not pack nuts or nut based products in lunch boxes. This includes chocolate spread and satay chicken.

Extra sessions

Extra sessions starting after Easter will be confirmed this week. Returning children will also be sent a request sheet for September sessions – please keep an eye on your inbox.

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 and satay chicken) 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..

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 active, you need to check your details are up to date every 3 months. Go to gov.uk/childcareaccount.

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.

Easy Clothing!

At HWU5s 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 dress your child in "easy clothing" for preschool to help them manage these tasks. Please could we ask that you label all of your children's clothing and bags.

Accidents Outside of Preschool

Please inform us at the start of your child's session 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.

Absence

Please always give us a quick call to notify us if your child is absent on 01256 322788. It's important that we keep our registers up to date.

Prescribed Medication

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

Medications in Bags

If your child brings any form of medication into preschool including Vaseline, lip salve, anti bacterial hand gel, please could you hand it to a member of staff and not leave in the children's bags. Thank you.

Pre-loved Uniform

Lisa has a selection of pre-loved uniform items for sale. All proceeds from pre-loved uniform sales go towards our preschool's fundraising. Please see Lisa if you are interested in taking a look.

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!

Stay & Play with your child

Parents are always welcome to stay and play at preschool sessions – just let a member of staff know that you're staying and follow the safeguarding procedures that you'll find when you sign in the visitor's book.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 27th March	Last preschool sessions
30th March-10th April	Easter holidays
Monday 13th April	Return to preschool for summer term
Monday 4th May	Bank holiday. Preschool closed
Thursday 7th May	Preschool closed. Parent meetings (more details coming soon)
Friday 22nd May	Last preschool sessions
Monday 25th– Friday 29th May	Preschool closed – half term
Monday 1st June	Return to preschool
Thursday 16th July	Last preschool sessions
Friday 17th July	Graduation celebration – preschool leavers only

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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