



AUTUMN TERM

The term has come to an end and it has been a fun yet challenging time. We have welcomed many new families to Preschool as well as seeing familiar faces returning to us. The resilience of the children has been astounding and we are all so impressed with how they have coped in these difficult times. We are also very grateful for all the parents and how you have all adapted to the new way Preschool runs and the additional pressures we have all felt this year. And of course, the team at Preschool have been simply incredible as they ensured all the children felt secure in their environment and provided so many fun and exciting experiences during this term.

This festive period has brought some welcome relief at Preschool as we immersed ourselves fully into the Christmas spirit and enjoyed so many different craft activities, messy play, singing and dancing, dressing up and so much more!

OUR LEARNING THIS TERM

This term started with settling back and getting used to our new routines and getting to know one another again. We had lots of conversations about what we did in the summer holidays and time spent with friends and family. We spent time in the first few weeks learning each other's names and making new friends.

As the weeks went by we started to learn about being healthy and tried lots of different fruits and vegetables. We also discovered how to keep both our minds and bodies healthy as we did yoga and calming activities.

We moved on to learning about primary colours using our craft area to do printing, painting, collaging and many more messy activities. We also started to learn about shapes and enjoyed going on shape hunts and matching them all around us.

As the autumn weather settled in we started to learn about changes in nature and did lots of foraging for conkers, leaves and sticks. These were used to create pictures, conker rolling, and wands! We learned about autumnal animals that hibernate and enjoy the cold weather, using our tuff trays to explore and learn about different environments and habitats.

We celebrated different festivals including Bonfire Night and Fireworks, Diwali and Christmas. The final few weeks at Preschool was spent enjoying festive activities and talking about spending time with family and friends. And of course we had a chat about Father Christmas!



SUMMER TERM PLANS

When we return in the New Year we will be settling back in and talking about our Christmas fun at home. We will welcome new families to Preschool and be making new friends.

Our first learning focus will be '**winter**' and will learn about different Arctic animals and the weather during winter. We will explore different messy activities such as gloop, ice and foam and talk about what we need to wear in the cold.

We have some festivals to celebrate when we return including Burns night and Australia day as we learn about other family's culture and traditions.

We will supporting the children with communication and language skills using lots of songs, stories and language activities.

The Ladybirds and Dragonflies will be planning separate group times to focus on the needs and interest of each group and we will continue to plan exciting and fun activities catering to the children's interests.

REMINDERS

I imagine the weather will be unpredictable as ever when we return but please do ensure children have **appropriate clothing for indoor and outdoor** play and that they are **clearly labelled**.

You are welcome to bring in a small bag/back pack for your child for any essentials but only if this is necessary.



All children need to have a labelled water bottle at Preschool and to have **water only** rather than juice as we always promote healthy eating at Preschool.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

17th December: Last day of term

5th January: Back to Preschool

14th-18th February: half term

1st April: Last day of term

Merry Christmas! Lianne and the Preschool team.

