

Ruskin Road PreSchool



Spring One Newsletter

Welcome Back

A huge 'welcome back' to all our children and their families after the festive break. We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year, and that you all got some time to reflect over the year gone by and the year ahead. The Christmas period is always such a busy time for everyone, but it's so important to remember the meaning behind advent and Christmas itself.

We are thoroughly looking forward to a new year with new experiences, learning opportunities, but most of all fun for all our children.

Hello ...

We are very excited to welcome six new children and their families to the preschool in January.

A big 'hello' to Norah, James, Sienna, Louie & Almina who are all joining Monkey group with Jessica, and Viraaj who is joining Parrots with Clare.

We hope you all settle quickly and enjoy your time at Ruskin Road Preschool.

Family Photos

We love to celebrate and talk about our families whilst at preschool. Therefore, can we ask parents to email in a family photo that we can display for our children during the day. This helps their personal, social and emotional development, as well as their communication and language whilst with us.

Term Dates 2024/2025

Monday 6th January: Spring One begins. Preschool reopens at normal time of 9.30am.

Monday 17th - Friday 21st February: Half term, preschool closed.

Monday 24th February: Spring Two begins. Preschool opens normal time of 9.30am.

Friday 4th April: Last Day of Term.

School Fund

For those unaware the school fund is a £20 surcharge per term to pay for consumables whilst children are at preschool. This includes all our daily snack, as well as cleaning products, cooking ingredients etc.

Unfortunately, we have seen a big drop in parents paying this the last term.

We are now at the stage where if we do not see an increase in this being paid, we will unfortunately have to stop offering snack and ask parents to provide this daily. It will also affect the resources and activities we can offer to the children for their learning.

All invoices were given out during the last week of term before the Christmas break, if you have misplaced yours, please do speak to Lisa.

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Topics

We have lots of exciting plans and activities coming up over the next half term.

Starting with January, our topic will be 'Celebrating Colour'. We will be identifying colours in our natural surroundings, exploring what happens when we mix colours and looking at abstract art by Jackson Pollock.

In February, we will be learning about Winter. Thinking about what clothes we should wear and why these are important, taking part in experiments with water and ice, and thinking about what animals have to do during the colder months.

Some dates that we will be celebrating are:

January

25th Burns Night

26th Australia Day

29th Chinese/Lunar New Year

February

12th Lantern Festival

14th Valentine's Day

Good News

We have some very happy news to share with you all. Sophia is expecting a new baby! Sophia will be going on maternity leave from the start of May. I hope you will all join us in congratulating Sophia.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding children is everyone's role, but if you wish to speak to someone in private, please note that Lisa is our safeguarding lead within the preschool. Jessica is the deputy in Lisa's absence.

Sickness

Unfortunately, we have had a lot of illnesses in the preschool the last few weeks of the term. Whilst this is totally normal for this time of year, it doesn't make it any easier for our children, families and staffing team.

We would like to remind parents to please not send their children to preschool if they are suffering from any form of sickness or illness. We totally understand that parents work, but we have a duty of care to our children and the staffing team to have a preschool as safe and healthy as possible. We are unable to do this when children are attending the setting poorly.

Unfortunately, we had to reduce our child numbers due to staff not being able to work due to either their children being sick from preschool, or indeed themselves. This is not beneficial for anyone.

If you have any queries or questions whether your child is fit enough to attend, please do call and ask a member of staff in the morning.