



2024

PARKSIDE PRE-SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

We hope you all had an enjoyable half term break and are looking forward to all the activities we have planned for the remainder of the term.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Outdoor Play

As it has now turned cold and wet, please ensure your child has adequate clothes. **Make sure that all clothes/coats etc are labelled with your child's name.** If your child wears their wellington boots to Pre-school in the morning, can you also bring a pair of shoes that they can change into.



Pre-school Tops with Logo

We still have the Pre-school's polo shirts (£9), tee shirts (£7), sweatshirts (£13) and fleeces (£16) on sale. Please see Mandy or one of the other staff if you would like to buy one. We also have some nearly new items kindly passed on by previous families. Please ensure that you name any new purchases.

Government Help with Childcare Costs

Details of Government help with childcare, including "Tax-free childcare" and "30 hours free childcare" for 3 and 4-year-olds can be found on this website: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>.

Both are aimed at working families so check now to see if you could be eligible. Parkside Pre-school is registered for the tax-free childcare, and you can find us if you are registering, by either our name, post code (E4 6XQ) or Ofsted URN (146927).

Two-year-old children of most working families, as well as those receiving certain Government support, are eligible for 15 hours of free childcare from the term after their second birthday.

Eligibility codes for working families are available via the Childcare Choices website (see above), you will need to have applied and provided us with the code by the end of the term before the funding starts. The scheme will be expanding to 30-hours for children of working families from 9-months old in September 2025 and you can register to receive the latest updates on the same website.

Absence from Pre-school

If your child is not going to be in Pre-school, please remember to call us on 020 3609 7557 or email

parksidepreschoole4@gmail.com to report the absence. Please do this before 9.30am (or 1.00pm for afternoon sessions). If we have not heard from you, we will try to contact you by phone or email but, if unsuccessful, will have to start calling those on your contact list.

Just a reminder to everyone, if your child has a temperature or diarrhoea and vomiting, it is our policy that they must be kept at home for 48 hours from the last time they had a temperature, or an episode of vomiting or diarrhoea.

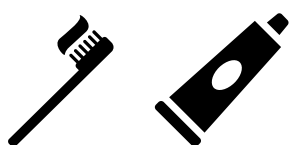
Flu Vaccination

Flu vaccinations (in the form of a nasal spray) are available from your GP for all children who were aged two or three on 31 August 2024 and are particularly important this year. Vaccines are also available for primary school age children and those aged 6 months to 2 years with a long-term health condition. You should also check that your child is up-to-date with their MMR vaccinations.

LATEST NEWS

Henry

Henry has lots of information on oral health and healthy eating [HENRY in Waltham Forest | HENRY](#) and includes a Buddy scheme; you can follow them on Facebook and Instagram. If you have had difficulty in finding a dentist, please see the attached information on dental practices that may be accepting new patients.



Healthy Start

Healthy start is an NHS initiative to help low-income pregnant women and families with children under four access free fruit, vegetables, pulses, milk and vitamins. Have a look online to see if you might be eligible [How to apply - Get help to buy food and milk \(Healthy Start\)](#) or ask Debbie if you need some help with the process.

HELP NEEDED

Donations

This term we are looking for tinsel. Please also save any Christmas cards or shiny paper for us. We are very grateful for anything you could bring in.

Committee


The Pre-school is run by a committee which is made up of volunteers, mainly parents/carers of children attending the Pre-school.

We always need additional volunteers from amongst our new parents; if you would like to find out more about this or nominate yourself just speak to Debbie or Mandy. Please support our committee as our Pre-school cannot run without it.

Fundraising

Any funds we raise directly benefit your children. If there is anyone who has ideas for fundraising or who would like to assist us with this, please speak to Debbie.

We are currently doing a fun hand printing activity with the children before Christmas; these will make lovely gifts for friends and family or a keepsake for yourself. They are £2.50 each, look out for a member of staff outside after the session and make your order.

We have signed up the Pre-school to  so it would be great if you could use this for your online purchases with Black Friday and Christmas coming up. Over 6,000 shops and sites will donate to us, including all the big names like eBay, John Lewis, Argos, ASOS, M&S, B&Q, booking.com, Tui and Just Eat! Plus, you could raise up to £50 donations when you use easyfundraising to save money on your household bills including car and home insurance, energy, phone contract or broadband. Uswitch, GoCompare, and Confused.com will all donate to us for free! It's easy to use and completely free, there is an app and a donation reminder that you can download which will give you a reminder whenever you visit an eligible site or even when you just search a product. These work on your computer, tablet and i-phone. The donations, although small, will mount up and really help us, so please take a moment to get started by following this link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=286812&invite=s7k9y4&referral-campaign=c2s> or using the QR code.



Useful Links

Children & Family Centres' Newsletter with activities for under 5s - [Newsletter | LPCC \(tlpcc.org.uk\)](#)

Walthamstow Toy Library & Play Centre - [The Toy Library \(walthamstowtoylibrary.org\)](#)

The Hive has lots of activities to try at home as well as the Squirrels Forest School - [Things to do for children and families at Suntrap in Epping Forest \(thehiveintheforest.co.uk\)](#) including these events: [Hygge at The Hive Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#), [The Jolly Christmas Postman Woodland Storytime Tickets, Mon 23 Dec 2024 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

There are also lots of ideas for fun activities and home learning if you follow **Chit Chat Pitter Pat Waltham Forest** [Home learning for under fives | London Borough of Waltham Forest](#) or on Instagram or Facebook.

There are family events including "Mini Morris" for under 5s at the **William Morris Gallery** - [Families - William Morris Gallery \(wmgallery.org.uk\)](#)

Cost of Living Support in Waltham Forest - [Cost of living support: your crisis, our action | London Borough of Waltham Forest](#)

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. Should you require the newsletter in one of our community languages, please see a member of staff. If you would like to contact us by e-mail our address is parksidepreschoole4@gmail.com

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 12 Dec Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 16 Dec (am) Christmas Party

Tuesday 17 Dec (am) Celebration with parents and a surprise visitor

Wednesday 18 Dec (pm) Christmas Party

Thursday 19 Dec End of Term

Monday 6 Jan Closed for INSET day

Tuesday 7 Jan Children return to Pre-school

We will be sending out further information on the end of term arrangements shortly.

