

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Volume: 15 Issue: 4



Little Greys
Pre-School

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we move into the last month of the year! Let's look back at the wonderful autumn term we have had. Lots of great learning and experiences had by the children. All the children have fully settled into pre-school life and developing great friendships. The staff have been busy writing on entry reports and I have uploaded them to Tapestry. Please ensure you take a look at your child's report, which can be found in the report section on the app. Parent feedback is so important to us, if you can leave a comment that would be great and helps with partnership with parents.

Next term we are planning parent meetings at the pre-school, I will send out more information once dates have been confirmed.

Thank you for your kind donations for Children in Need. We raised £113.00! The children all looked very colourful on Friday 18th November 2022

The weather is definitely getting colder as we draw nearer to winter so please make sure your child brings a suitable coat, hat and gloves into pre-school each day. We are outside in all weathers!

The next two weeks will involve lots of paint and glitter, getting creative for the festive season! Practicing the Christmas Nativity! The Nativity takes place Tuesday 13th December 2022 at 9.30am 'St Gregory's School Hall'. Please ensure you get your tickets.

The children will be learning about why we celebrate Christmas. Including a visit from a special visitor! Shh! don't tell the children.

Kind Regards
Sarah Wilkes
Pre-School Manager



Reminders:

- If your child is absent you must inform the pre-school by 9am. Please phone or email. This has to be done for each day of absence.
- Water bottle needed for each session. Please ensure the bottle is clearly labelled.
- Please label your child's belongings including a full change of clothing including socks.
- No Nuts in snack boxes or packed lunches.
- Hot Lunches can be ordered daily at the gate when you drop off.
- A coat is needed as we go out in all weathers.

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Nursery Education Funding (NEF) 15hrs & 30hrs

The funding from the Government covers session hours only.

Session hours are 8:30-11:30 and 12:30-15:30, Monday-Friday, term time only.

Any other hours attended by the child are payable in full by the parent/carer.

The lunchtime hour (11:30-12:30) is NOT included in the funding and a charge of £4.20 is payable. If a hot lunch is ordered there is an additional charge of £2.40.

Childcare Vouchers - Voucher payments need to be cleared to our account on or before the 14th of each month. Please allow 3 working days for the transaction to clear.

Dates for the Diary	
Christmas Nativity (AM) and Raffle Drawn. 9.30am St Gregory's School	Tuesday 13 th December 2022
End of Autumn Term	Friday 16 th December 2022
Teacher Training Day (no children)	Tuesday 3 rd January 2023
Return to Pre-School	Wednesday 4 th January 2023
End of Half Term	Friday 17 th February 2023
Half Term Break	Monday 20 th - Friday 24 th February 2023
Return to Pre-School	Monday 27 th February 2023

Applications open for Reception School Places

Children born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019

Please note that the deadline for applying for Reception school places comes round very soon after Christmas (15 January 2023). This applies to children born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019 for Reception.

Applications should be made online at: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/homepage/421/applying-for-a-primary-school-place>



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Cubs

This half term, we have been working on developing the Cubs gross physical development, such as running, kicking a ball, jumping off low objects, parachute play and balancing across beams. It has been lovely to see children's confidence growing with these skills, and even trying to do some activities by themselves, rather than holding an adult's hand. We continue with Chatter Matters, as everyone really enjoys these sessions and the repetition is great for language skills.

Children in Need day was a huge success with lots of money being raised - thanks to those who kindly donated. The Cubs had lots of fun playing in the ball pit, dancing under our flashing disco light and decorating teddy bear biscuits. Cubs continue to enjoy nature nursery, and they are now happy to go off and explore all the different areas with friends or on their own, not always needing an adult by their side all the time. This really opens up social play opportunities and creative play.

As the Cubs are now beginning to be able to sit for longer during small group time, we are able to share more stories with them during this quiet time. After Christmas, we will be reading different stories with your children each week, such as Dear Zoo, Going on a Bear Hunt and Rainbow Fish. We will base many of our activities around our weekly story.

Wishing all our families a very happy Christmas and all the best for 2023!

From Cubs Team



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Little Gregs
Pre-School

Lions and Tigers

Lions and Tigers have been busy working on developing fine motor skills, exploring different mark making tools, using tweezers, threading and using scissors. Fine motor skills involve small muscles working with the brain and nervous system to control movements in areas such as the hands, fingers, lips, tongue and eyes. Developing fine motor skills helps children do things like eating, writing, manipulating objects and getting dressed.

This term the children have been focused on construction, building with a wider range of materials and resources. To support creative ideas and mark making, we have added opportunities of being creative using mark making tools to different areas of the room. This has been successful and the children have created great marks, giving meaning to their marks.

World Nursery Rhyme week was fantastic! Learning nursery rhymes using different methods and the children took a great interest in the life cycle of frogs!

Over this term we have been building a partnership with Warwickshire Libraries. The library bus has been visiting us every 3 weeks on a Wednesday and Stratford Library gave us the opportunity to create a Christmas display, which you can see in the children's area. Make sure you take a visit to the library to have a look!

We have been invited by Ellie at the Library to go and see the display and have story time Tuesday 6th December 2022.

From Lions and Tigers Team

