



## SUMMER TERM 01 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term has flown by so quickly, and the May half term break is already upon us!

Lots of exciting activities have taken place recently. Watching the caterpillars grow into beautiful butterflies has certainly been a favourite! We also have so much planned for the final term of the year.

Please take a look at the dates below, as we have the Father's Day Forest School "Stay and Play" coming up for Lions & Tigers, along with a sports morning with Andy.

Andy's sponsored sports morning is taking place again this year. Lions and Tigers children who attend pre-school on a Friday morning have been practising different sporting activities in preparation for 12th June. Please see the link below to sponsor Andy and the children. All monies raised will support the pre-school, funding new resources and extra-curricular activities.

The final plans have now come together for the refurbishment of the pre-school kitchen, which will take place over the summer holidays. With the support of Howdens and a local tradesman, we have secured everything needed.

I would also like to thank parents who have recommended us. I have carried out many show rounds following your recommendations. Your support in sharing Little Gregs helps us tremendously, and it is wonderful to hear such positive feedback.

It was also an honour to be nominated by the Early Years Inclusion SEND team to share my SENDCo journey for the SENDCo Spotlight feature, which was published recently. Celebrating my 20th year in Early Years feels incredible – I've had the privilege of working with so many wonderful children and families over the years.

I hope you all have a lovely half term break. We look forward to welcoming the children back to pre-school on Monday 1st June 2026.

Kind Regards,

Sarah Wilkes

Pre-School Manager





SENDCO NAME: Sarah

LOCATION:

Stratford-Upon-Avon

AGE RANGE:

2-4 years old

NUMBER ON ROLL: 35



Gold WInckS setting

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A SENDCO & WHAT WAS YOUR JOURNEY?

My Early Years journey began in 2006 when I qualified, became Room Leader and discovered a strong passion for supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

I completed my Level 5 qualification, followed by a BA (Hons) in Early Years with a focus on SEN.

I have been the SENDCo at Little Gregs for six years and achieved my Level 5 SEN Higher Advanced Practitioner status, which strengthened my knowledge of legislation, early identification, and effective intervention.

I am also a parent of a child with SEND. This inspired me to volunteer for two years with the South Warwickshire Dyslexia Association, supporting their work with children and families



WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST VALUABLE TRAINING AS A SENDCO?

- The **Level 5 SEN Higher Advanced Practitioner** status gave me valuable insight into SEND from early years through to adulthood. This strengthened my knowledge of documentation, effective practice, and partnership working with children, families, and professionals.
- **SENDCo surgeries** to keep updated on current guidance and explore new strategies to enhance inclusive practice.
- Also the **Time to Talk** training, gaining Language Champion status, and later developed the skills to implement the LEGRO approach within the setting to further support children’s language development.

MY TOP STRATEGIES & RESOURCES:

- **Developing positive relationships with children and their families is essential.** Parents and carers hold valuable background and developmental information, and children often present differently at home compared to in an educational setting. Building a strong partnership ensures consistent approaches, supports the child’s well-being, and helps create a cohesive experience across both environments.
- **Consistency within practice** and across the staff team is essential. When staff understand a child’s individual needs and the strategies in place to support them, it creates a stable and predictable environment.
- A **‘Trial and error’** approach is an important part of supporting children with SEND. You cannot know whether a strategy will be effective unless you try it. If a strategy is not working, consider whether it can be adapted or explore the reasons why it may be ineffective.
- Our **sensory area** has had a positive impact across the setting and has continued to develop throughout the years. It supports the needs of all children who attend, offering a calming, engaging space that promotes exploration, regulation and inclusive practice.



Education Strategy 2024 - 2029



Best Start



SEND & Inclusion



Efficiency & Admissions



Strong System

Through education, improve life opportunities for children, young people and those with special educational needs and disabilities



Visit our SEND local offer [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send)





# Little Gregs

Pre-School

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Teacher Training Day - Closed to Children	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Return to pre-school	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026
Andy's Sponsored Sports Morning <b>Friday Session Children Only</b> <b>Lions &amp; Tigers</b>	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Father's Day 'Forest School Stay & Play' <b>Lions &amp; Tigers Only</b>	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 Dad's welcome to attend 9:45am to 10:45am Please confirm your attendance.
Sports Morning <b>Friday Session Children Only</b> <b>Lions &amp; Tigers</b>	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2026 Parents welcome to attend 9am to 10am
Pre-school Leavers Service	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2026 10am to 11am
Last Day of Term	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

### 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 and the reason for absence. 01789 290198 / [littlegregs3506@welearn365.com](mailto:littlegregs3506@welearn365.com)

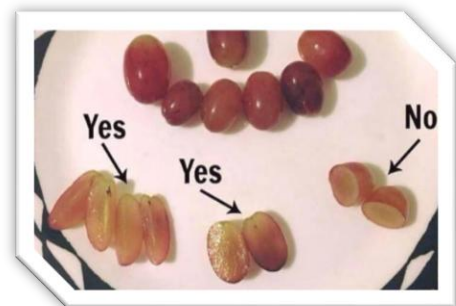
-Water bottle needed for each session. Please ensure the bottle is clearly labelled.

-Please provide nappies if your child uses them.

-Please label your child's belongings.

-No Nuts in snack boxes.

- Please cut up grapes.





Little Gregs  
Pre-School

## Cubs

Dear Parents,

This half term, the Cubs have been learning all about the life cycle of a butterfly. The children watched our caterpillars grow and then enjoyed the special moment of releasing the butterflies as they flew away. They also got creative and made their own beautiful butterflies.

We read the stories *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *What the Ladybird Heard*. The children loved recalling parts of the stories, joining in with animal sounds, and acting out key moments. Our walk to the canal was a highlight, where we spotted ducks, a dog, and a swan – just like in the story!

In maths, the children counted ladybirds and matched them to the correct colours and numbers. We also decorated our outdoor area by hiding insects around the garden and went on a bug hunt, which the children found very exciting.

It has been a wonderful half term full of learning, imagination, and outdoor adventures.

We would like to wish all our families a wonderful half term.

Warm regards,

The Cubs Team





Little Gregs  
Pre-School

## Lions and Tigers

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of the first half of the summer term, we wanted to share some of the wonderful things the children have been learning and enjoying over the past few weeks.

We began the half-term by exploring the fascinating world of minibeasts. A highlight of this half-term has been having real caterpillars in the setting, which the children were able to observe daily until their final transformation into butterflies. This led us to learn about the life cycle of a butterfly, during which the children also discovered the concept of symmetry through fun, hands-on activities. We also explored the life cycle of frogs. In addition, each child had the opportunity to plant their own sunflower to take home and care for. These experiences further developed the children's understanding of how living things grow and change.

We have also been reading the story Jack and the Beanstalk, and our role-play area was transformed into a castle with features from the story. Outdoors, the children have been enjoying role-playing in our Garden Centre, buying flowers and practising their planting skills.

During LEGRO Time, we read and acted out the story Handa's Surprise, transforming into the animals that were stealing fruit from Handa's basket.

It has been a joyful and busy half-term, full of learning and laughter.

We wish you all a wonderful and restful half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back for the final half-term of the academic year—ready for more adventures!

Best wishes from

Tigers and Lions Team





**Little Gregs**  
Pre-School

**We have a position available on our board of directors.**

**Little Gregs Pre-School and Out of School Club is overseen by a group of Directors who meet on a termly basis.**

We are, therefore, looking to recruit one new volunteer who will help oversee Little Gregs and support the staff in the fantastic job they do with the children.

**What commitment is required when becoming a Board Member?**

- Attend appropriate training which will help to understand the statutory safeguarding and welfare requirements within Early Years.
- Attendance at a termly meeting
- Attendance at any ad hoc/sub-group meeting as and when required
- Willingness to commit the necessary time to the charity as required

Specifically, we are looking for someone willing to take on the role of **Vice Chair Person**. This role would require someone who could commit to a few hours per term, supporting the pre-school manager.

The role is voluntary and receive no remuneration and are subject to an enhanced CRB check.

**How do you get involved?**

For further information or to express your interest in this exciting opportunity please speak with Sarah Wilkes 'Pre-School Manager'

01789 290198

[Littlegregs3506@welearn365.com](mailto:Littlegregs3506@welearn365.com)





Little Gregs

Pre-School



# Andy's Sports FUN



Lions & Tigers will be taking part in a fun-filled morning of sports activities with Andy to help raise funds for future extracurricular activities at pre-school.

Date: Friday 12th June 2026



We would greatly appreciate your support!

Please scan the QR code to sponsor Andy and the children. Thank you for helping us make more exciting opportunities possible for our little learners! ❤️

<https://payment.paydit.io/stgcps/andyssponsoredsportsfun>

Thank you for supporting Little Gregs Pre-school!