



Laugh and Learn Pre-School Tarring - Newsletter - Issue 48- February 2026

We are well and truly into our Spring Term, although tell the weather! and have explored some fantastic activities so far. We hope you have all been following our weekly activities on Facebook and have been able to keep up to date with all your children's experiences on Tapestry. It is our hope that by sharing what we have been up to each week it will encourage some lovely conversations at home for you with your little ones.

Please remember if you have any queries or concerns at any point, we are here to support you.

Some of this half terms activities:



Monday 23rd February: - Return to Preschool

Half-Term - Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March

Mother's Day- Sunday 15th March

Last Day of Term - FRIDAY 27th March

Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April

Return to Preschool Monday 13th April.

World Book Day- Thursday 5th March 2025

This year we will having lots of fun activities around World Book Day and will be dressing up too, but in order not to put too much pressure on our busy parents it can be any book character that the children wish. It's always fun dressing up especially for us adults!

Parents evening

We will again be holding a parent's evening next half term (on Tuesday 3rd March) to enable you to come in to have a chat with your child's keyperson to celebrate your child's achievements and discuss their overall development. An email will be sent to enable you to book in a slot and we are looking forward to seeing you all.

Can we just remind you to not bring your child or siblings along to these as it is not appropriate to discuss them in front of their ever-listening ears!

Staff changes

As you know we have welcomed Flick and Clara to the Laugh and Learn team who are both very experienced and an asset to the team. Sadly, we have to say goodbye to Stacey who is leaving us as has moved away, she will be very missed by all!

Jess DR is also leaving us as is off on a very exciting adventure traveling, she will be very missed, but we hope she will return at some point later in the year in some capacity. We look forward to sharing photos with the children. Those affected by the key worker change will be contacted separately.

Some of you may have noticed Jess's fast-growing bump, she is expecting another baby and is due in August, she intends to stay until the end of the summer term to support the school transitions and see our 2026 leavers graduate and will return early next year to continue to support the remaining children on their journey through Laugh and Learn.

'Movers and Shakers' group with Chloe and Clara

We continue to take part in a fun weekly mindfulness and yoga sessions with Chloe as well as a weekly fitness and dance class now with Clara. The children get so much out of these sessions, supporting their own self-regulation, listening, and following instructions, interpreting stories and dance as well as moving to music and a range of physical activities. All whilst having a huge amount of fun!



Nicola's cooking group

We also continue with our weekly cooking sessions for a small group of children, whilst we all do cook and bake together as a group, and will continue to do so, we have an additional smaller group each week to enable the children to get really involved in the process of a cooking activity from start to finish. These groups are now on Tuesday to ensure some different children can participate.



Laugh and Learn book Library.

Don't forget to borrow a book from our Laugh and Learn Book Library! Where children can help themselves to a book to read at home with their families which they can then return to swap for another! Happy Reading! 📖

Tarring Manor Care Home

We continue to visit Tarring Manor Care Home to meet to the residents there as we did last term, where we share games, colour pictures and chat about our favourite things to do. We are looking forward to continuing with these visits throughout the coming half term.

Winter virus's

We have certainly had some Winter viruses doing the rounds over the past half term. Just a reminder, children who are unwell and have a temperature should not attend preschool and can only return to preschool once they have been free from a temperature for 24 hours and they are well enough to do so. If your child requires Calpol then we would consider that they are not well enough to attend. Children who have mild symptoms such as a runny nose and are otherwise well should however continue to attend preschool as normal.

Please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately and warmly and always have a coat and wellies with them as we will still go outside as much as possible over the winter months.

Encouraging Independence in readiness for school

For those of you who have children transferring to school in September, we are starting to think about how we can best prepare them for a smooth transition. We will be encouraging increased independence in these children when we return and we will be encouraging them in areas such as changing themselves, finding and recognising their own names and toileting etc. We will be doing all we can to help your child have a smooth transition, however there are some things that you could do at home that would be invaluable in raising their confidence:

- 1) Please encourage them to be independent in their toileting and in dressing and undressing themselves.
- 2) Ensure that they can recognise their own names. We work on this a lot at pre-school but it would be very beneficial if you could also work on this at home.
- 3) Please encourage your child to put on their own coat and if possible do it up. In addition, encourage them to be independent in putting away and collecting their own bag, lunch boxes and water bottles at pre-school.

These things are the most important skills for your child to have, and it is a bonus if your child can additionally write their name, know their colours, count 0-10, and know their phonic sounds.

Availability of sessions

Spaces have been filling up very quickly with us now being at capacity until September 2026. Please do let us know as soon as you are able to if you think you will be needing to drop any sessions you have reserved going forward as we now do have a waiting list. We would also be very grateful if you were to recommend us to all your families and friends for spaces from September 2026.

Do you think you may be entitled to the Early Years funded entitlement?

If you are a working parent and you believe you may be entitled to the 30 hours of funding, you will need to apply for it in the term **BEFORE** you wish to use it. **You will also need to reconfirm you are still entitled to the funding every three months.** Please look on the government website "Best start in life" to see the eligibility criteria and to apply.

Polite reminder about dogs on the premises

We would politely remind you that, although we love dogs, they are not allowed on the premises or in the playground at any time. In addition, they must not be tied up at the gate as this causes distress to some of our more sensitive children who are forced to walk past them when entering or leaving. We thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Parking

As we often state in our newsletters, we are all aware that parking can be very difficult at drop off and pick up time. It is very important that we remain on good terms with our neighbours, and we would ask you to park considerately, and ensure that a clear access is always maintained for vehicles passing through. Please also do not park across the end of our driveway as this is shared and access is always required by our neighbour. Please can we also please ask that any litter dropped in the driveway is taken away. Thank you once again for your cooperation.

Lunches

Children who stay with us for lunch will need to bring their own packed lunch which will be stored on a trolley. As we have no facilities to keep the lunches refrigerated, we ask **all parents to use an ice pack** to keep the contents cool. We have a strict NO NUTS AND SESAME POLICY, and all lunches are checked daily, any food within the packed lunch suspected of containing this (including chocolate spread) will be removed and the child will not be able to eat it on Preschool premises. This does include seeded bread as it is difficult for us to check all the bread types daily and clarify which seeds they contain. We will of course contact you to advise.

As per our Food and Nutrition Policy parents are encouraged to provide a healthy well-balanced lunch for their children. Processed meats (sausages, breaded processed chicken, meatballs) and packaged premade lunches should be limited. Foods high in saturated fat, salt, and sugars (treat items-cakes, sweet and savoury pastries, biscuits, and crisps) should be avoided to support children to develop healthy eating habits **only 1 treat item should be included in children's daily lunches**. All lunches should include a drink (daily water bottles are adequate) and fruit or vegetables. Chocolate and sweets are not permitted. We also ask you all to think about the amount of plastic that we are using in the lunches used daily and where possible, consider some alternatives.

Unfortunately, we are unable to give out sweets or cake on birthdays due to the high number this can be and us as a setting trying to promote healthy eating.

We thank you for helping us to support healthy eating in our setting.

Water Bottles

To enable us to provide the children with access to water, we would be grateful if you were able to bring in a **named** water bottle each time they attend. The bottles should be filled with water, which we will refill when necessary. No squash please. These bottles should be placed in the boxes provided and we will ensure that the children are reminded to drink throughout the session with the support of an adult.

Named Clothing

Now that the weather is certainly a little more Autumnal can we please ask that you ensure your child has a named coat with them every day so we can continue to play outside along with named welly boots, which can be left here at preschool for ease. In addition, please ensure that your child's bag and **all** its contents are clearly named and that no food or medicines are left in them. Please, please, please can you make sure you name everything.

Uniform polo shirts and sweatshirts

Our Laugh and Learn uniform is certainly not compulsory but it is just perfect for pre-school. If you are interested in purchasing some, please come and speak to us. Polo shirts are £12.50 each and sweatshirts £13.50 each, and we do hold some stock at Pre-school.

Social Media

Please like and share our Facebook and Instagram posts. We update our pages with photos of the activities your children have been involved in to encourage you to feel connected to your child's experiences and to encourage conversation at home about your child's day. We hope the posts will help you support your child's learning at home, and you can check out the pages for information on up-and-coming events or emergency closures in severe weather and so on.

Pre School-Staff: Owner/Manager:

Sharon Bennett

Deputy Manager/SENCO

Jessica Fedarb

Senior Team:

Lead Early Years Educator:

Sara Leamon

Lead Early Years Educator/SENCO:

Chloe Farmer

Senior Early Years Educator:

Nicola Duggan-Rees, Julie Smith, Jo Davis, Clara O'Toole and Flick McCluskey

Early Years Educator:

Yvette Ball, Karen Rose and Kat Duval.

Contacting Us

Should you need to contact the pre-school to let us know about any absences or for general queries then please call **07568443352** anytime from 8.30am on weekdays. For any queries, including any general enquires regarding changing sessions or fees, please continue to contact Sharon on the office number **07809254917** or send an email to laughandlearnbennett@yahoo.co.uk.

WSCC Privacy Notice

Following the new Data and Privacy Laws we have been asked by WSCC to send each of our parents a copy of their own Privacy Notice. Please see the notice at the bottom of this newsletter.

TERM DATES

Spring Term 2026

1st half Mon 5th January- Fri 13th February (6)

(Closed Half Term Mon 16th February-Fri 20th February)

2nd Half Mon 23rd February- Fri 27th March (5)

Summer Term 2026

1st half Mon 13th April-Fri 22nd May (6)

CLOSED MONDAY 4th MAY BANK HOLIDAY

(Closed Half Term Mon 25th May- Fri 29th May)

2nd Half Mon 1st June-Fri 17th July (7)

Autumn term 2026

1st half Mon 7th September to Fri 23rd October (7)

(Closed Half Term Mon 26th Oct- Fri 30th Oct)

Mon 2nd November to Fri 18th December (7)

Spring Term 2027

1st half Mon 4th January- Fri 12th February (6)

(Closed Half Term Mon 15th February-Fri 19th February)

2nd Half Mon 22nd February- Fri 25th March (5)

Summer Term 2027

1st half Mon 12th April-Fri 28th May (7)

CLOSED MONDAY 3rd MAY BANK HOLIDAY

(Closed Half Term Mon 25th May- Fri 29th May)

2nd Half Mon 7th June-Fri 16th July (6)

Please note that the above dates may be subject to change at short notice

Privacy Notice for parents accessing Early Years and Childcare provision

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018

The **Local Authority (LA)** processes information on children in order to help administer education and family services and in doing so must comply with GDPR 2018. This means, among other things, that the data held about children, must only be used for specific purposes allowed by law.

The **Early Years and Childcare Setting** holds information on children and their families in order to support their development; monitor their progress; apply for funding; provide appropriate pastoral care and self-evaluate their provision for the purposes of **Ofsted** inspections.

From time to time Early Years and Childcare Settings are required to pass on some of this data to LAs, the **Department for Education (DfE)** and to agencies that are prescribed by law and Ofsted. In particular, at age five an assessment (known as Early Years Foundation Stage Profile) is made of all children and this information is passed to the LA and receiving schools to help meet the child's needs. Any such organisation will have their own Privacy Notice.

The LA and **Commissioned Partners** (for example NHS Healthy Child Programme) use information about children and families for whom they provide services where there is a legal reason to do so. This may also be used for the wider purpose of planning/accessing services for children and families.

For example, the LA and Commissioned Partners use your information to:

- claim Free Entitlement (FE) for 2, 3 and 4 year olds
- identify children's needs through Integrated Health Checks
- identify children and family's needs through Children's Learning and Well-Being Audits • safeguard children
- provide inclusion support
- inform SEND Under 5s support planning
- support effective transitions
- ensure public funds are administered and spent in line with any Statutory Guidance or

Code of Practice

They also use the information to produce statistics which inform various decisions but without identifying individual children.

Types of personal data held may include: • child's unique pupil number

- contact details
- parent/carer details

- National Insurance/National Asylum Seeker Service number • date of birth
- attendance information
- ethnicity

- personal characteristics relating to family health and environment
- special educational needs/disabilities including developmental progress

Personal data will not be retained by the LA or Commissioned Partners for longer than necessary. For example:

- financial purposes, up to seven years
- children/young people with SEND until they are aged 25

You have the right to:

- be informed of data processing (which is covered by this Privacy Notice)
- access information (also known as a Subject Access Request)
- have inaccuracies corrected
- request to have your information erased
- request restricted processing
- data portability (for example, allowing you to move, copy or transfer personal data

from one IT environment to another in a safe and secure way)

- intervention in respect of automated decision making (for example, claiming 2 year old FE funding)
- withdraw consent (where personal data is purely processed on the basis of consent)
- complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (see below)

Ofsted do not routinely process any information about individual children. Ofsted holds no records of individual children's progress. However, it does use information about the achievement of groups of children to help inform its judgements about the quality of education in Early Years Providers.

The DfE uses information about children and pupils for research and statistical purposes; to allocate funds; to inform, influence and improve education policy and to monitor the performance of the education and children's services as a whole.

Who to write to about the data held

Children, as data subjects, have certain rights under the GDPR 2018, including a general right of access to personal data held on them, with parents exercising this right on their behalf if they are too young to do so themselves. If you wish to access the personal data held about your child/family, by WSCC, please contact:

- dataprotection@westsussex.gov.uk
- Data Protection Officer, West Sussex County Council, County Hall, West Street,

Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RQ.

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled by WSCC, you may wish to ask for a review of our decision by contacting our Data Protection Officer as above.

Complaints to Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

If you are not content with the outcome of the WSCC review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted internal review procedures.

- The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
- <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

0303 123 1113