

Newsletter: Friday 11th July 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome

As we approach the end of term – 7 days in the setting to go 🎉😊, it's a busy and exciting time in Pre-School. Our Key Workers are currently tied up with parent consultations, finalising children's assessments and pulling together all the important end-of-year paperwork that helps celebrate and capture each child's progress. We know it's a busy time for families too, so this week's newsletter is a shorter one — just the essential updates and reminders to keep you informed as we wrap up the year together. Thank you, as always, for your continued support — we're so proud of everything the children have achieved this year, and we're looking forward to ending the term on a high!

Hot Weather Update – Wasps: With the recent hot weather, we've noticed an increase in wasp activity around the courtyard!

To keep the children safe and comfortable during the hot weather — and due to a noticeable increase in wasps — we are spending most of our outdoor time in the garden and focusing on activities in the indoor rooms instead of the courtyard. You might see us using the front doors to the hall for entry and exit, as we try to avoid areas that have become a popular hangout for our winged visitors on particularly bad days! Thank you for your understanding as we adjust our routines to ensure everyone can enjoy their time safely.

Thursday Baking Fun – Pizza Party!

This week's Thursday baking session was a delicious success as the children became mini chefs and made their very own pizzas! There was so much excitement as they rolled out dough, sprinkled cheese, and carefully selected their favourite toppings. The room was full of happy chatter and proud smiles! As our final baking session of the year, it was a lovely way to celebrate everything the children have learned. This fun-filled activity also tied in perfectly with our One World theme, sparking thoughtful conversations about where our food comes from and how we can make choices that care for our planet. It also connected beautifully to our recent story One Plastic Bag, reminding us that small, mindful actions — even while cooking — can make a big difference. A huge well done to all our brilliant bakers!






Tapestry/Social Media



Please note that there will be very few further updates on Tapestry during the last 7 days of term. During this time, staff will be focusing on end-of-year assessments, in-class activities and preparations for the new academic year. Thank you for your understanding and for your continued support throughout the year.

Pre-School Outing – Foxdown Farm

 Monday, 21st July 2025

 Foxdown Farm – families make their own way there

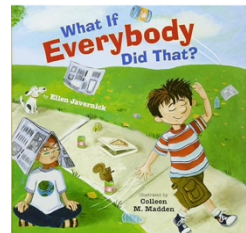
 Meet at 10:00 AM | Finish at 2:00 PM

- * A fun outdoor day for children to explore and enjoy the farm
 - * £8 per child has been covered by Pre-School if you have booked through us.
 - * Each child must be accompanied by a parent/carer.
 - * Adult tickets: £6 (to be paid by parents) if booked through us, £9 on the day.
 - * Siblings welcome – £6 per child (under 2s go free) if booked through us.
 - * Families are welcome to stay on after 2:00 PM, but staff will be taking their leave at this point.
 -  The graduation of our Pre-School leavers will take place at the end of the day, as a special celebration to mark their time with us before they move on to new adventures.
- We look forward to you joining us for a fantastic day at the farm! 

Updates

• **Reading**

If you drop just one soda can out the window, it's no big deal...right? But what if everybody did that? What if everybody broke the rules...and spoke during story time, didn't wash up, or splashed too much at the pool? Then the world would be a mess. But what if everybody obeyed the rules so that the world would become a better place? Using humorous illustrations rendered in mixed media, these questions are answered in a child-friendly way and show the consequences of thoughtless behaviour.



With our continuing focus on reading culture, we will keep recommending books to our families, with a view to trying to widen pupils' interest in different genres and authors.

• **Learning at home**

At-Home Activities to Boost Name, Letter & Number Recognition

- **Name Puzzle**
Write your child's name on cardboard and cut it into large puzzle pieces. Let them put the puzzle together to learn letter order.
- **Name Tracing**
Use washable markers or finger paint for your child to trace their name on paper, a window, or even a tray of shaving foam!
- **Alphabet Treasure Hunt**
Hide magnetic letters or letter cards around the room. Call out a letter or sound and have your child find it.
- **Letter Playdough Mats**
Make or print letter outlines and let your child form the letters with playdough.
- **Number Hopscotch**
Create a simple hopscotch grid with numbers 1–10 using chalk outside or tape inside. Call out numbers and jump to them.

- **Counting with Everyday Objects**
Count snacks, toys, or steps together. Encourage your child to say the numbers aloud.
- **Letter and Number Songs**
Sing catchy songs like “The Alphabet Song” or “Five Little Ducks” to reinforce recognition.
- **Name Recognition in Books**
Point out your child’s name in storybooks or on labels around the house.
- **Sticker Letters and Numbers**
Give your child sheets of letter and number stickers to place on paper to form their name or number sequences.
- **Matching Games**
Use cards with letters and numbers to play simple matching or memory games.

Reminders

- **Sun Safety Reminder**

As the warm weather continues and temperatures get even hotter, please remember the absolute necessity of sending your child to school with a **hat, suncream applied before arrival and provided for top-ups** and **light, loose-fitting clothing that covers their shoulders**. To date, we have tried not to phone parents when these items haven’t been provided, instead keeping children in the shade to protect them. However, we would really appreciate your support in ensuring your child comes prepared so they can safely enjoy outdoor activities. Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe and comfortable!

- **Mental Health:** At Pre-school, we focus on helping children feel safe, supported, and confident. As always, if you have any questions or would like ideas on how to support your child’s emotional development at home, please don’t hesitate to speak to a member of the team.

- Helpful UK Resources for Families:

- UNICEF UK Early Childhood Mental Health Toolkit
www.unicef.org.uk/campaign-with-us/early-moments-matter/early-childhood-mental-health-toolkit
- NSPCC – Understanding Young Children’s Mental Health
<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-health-development/child-mental-health>

- **Safeguarding:** At our setting, we regularly review our policies and training to ensure we are providing a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for every child. If you ever have any questions or concerns about your child’s well-being, please speak to a member of our safeguarding team.

The Safer Internet Centre has some excellent advice in their Parents’ guide to Technology and includes device specific settings for different models: www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology

Please see previous newsletters on the website for further links to mental health support, safeguarding and online safety, as well as school readiness.

Planning

As we head into our final few days of the term, you’ll notice there is no detailed planning linked to a key text this week. Instead, we’ll be spending our time celebrating, enjoying special activities, and making the most of our last moments together in the setting. The children will be encouraged to follow their interests, with free access to the resources and spaces they love most. Daily phonics, maths, and story sessions will still take place to help keep a calm and familiar rhythm to the day.

Dates for the Diary

- Transition to Stockland Primary Academy: Wednesday 16th July.
- Pre-School Trip: Monday 21st July 2025 - Foxdown Children's Farm, 10am - 2pm.
- Last Day of Summer Term: Tuesday 22nd July 2025.
- Return to Pre-School: Thursday 4th September 2025.

Contact Details

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info@stocklandpreschool.co.uk

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please email jemma@stocklandpreschool.co.uk. This inbox is monitored daily. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Jemma Harvey-Jones and our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Kelly Patch and Alice Hutter. Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy can be found online at: <https://stocklandpreschool.co.uk/policies-and-procedures/safeguarding>. If you have any concerns about the safety of a child you can either talk to our DSL or DDSL or you can phone Devon MASH on 01392 384964.

CORE COMMITTEE

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To contact any other members of our team please email the info@stocklandpreschool.co.uk account and your queries will be forwarded appropriately.