

# Newsletter January 2025



## Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back after Christmas holidays. We hope you and your families had a wonderful time celebrating Christ's birth



and we would like to wish you a very happy and healthy 2025. A very warm welcome to all the new children and their families who have joined our Friary Preschool family this January. We look forward to supporting your child's journey at preschool, watching them grow, and building a strong partnership with parents and carers.

**A big thank you for all the Christmas cards and gifts we received – they were greatly appreciated by all of us.**

Upcoming Events	News
<p><b>23<sup>rd</sup> of January</b> – A dentist from the Oral Health Promotion Team will be visiting the preschool to talk to the children about oral hygiene.</p> <p><b>27<sup>th</sup> of January</b> – Rosa and Toni from Crawley Library will be visiting the preschool to read stories and sing with children. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to enjoy the books.</p> <p><b>29<sup>th</sup> of January</b> – Chinese New Year celebration. We are very excited to celebrate this special occasion with the children. There will be many activities including a Chinese dragon dance, food tasting, and other fun and educational activities to mark this cultural celebration.</p>	<p><b>Parent Rota</b></p>  <p>Now that the children are settled, we are happy to invite parents to come in and spend time with the children or engage in activities such as storytelling, singing, cooking, or crafts. Please let us know your availability, as this is a wonderful opportunity to observe your child's play and gain insight into preschool experience.</p>

## Christmas Photoshoot/raffle

We are pleased to announce that we raised £500 from these fundraising events! We are planning to use some of the funds to introduce an exciting 'duck egg' project during the Spring term. The children will have an opportunity to experience the hatching of ducks' eggs and learn about caring for ducklings over the course of the project. We also plan to use some of the funds to enhance our outdoor garden, to make it more inviting for the children.

Final Reminder for School Application – Please remember that the West Sussex school application deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2025. Make sure you have applied for your child’s school place before this date.

### Parents Feedback Questionnaire

**We greatly appreciate all of you who took the time to provide valuable feedback. We are pleased to report that almost every parent returned their forms, and it was heartwarming to read how much you appreciate our hard work.**

### Reminders

- Please label your child’s belongings clearly.
- Please collect your child promptly at the time their session ends. Collection times are **12.00pm or 3.00pm**. A late collection fee of £5 will be charged.
- **PACKED LUNCH**
  1. If your child brings yoghurt for lunch, please provide a spoon to eat it with.
  2. No chocolate, biscuits, sweets, or crisps etc. – encourage good eating habits.
  3. No popcorn – the highest choking hazard food for young children.
  4. No nuts, Nutella, Pesto, or Peanut butter sandwiches– staff with severe allergies.

Please cut chunky fruit pieces in half and grapes, tomatoes, cocktail sausages lengthways to protect your child from choking.



### SNACK donation.

Thank you so much to everyone remembering to bring a piece of fruit for snack time and to those donating money towards our healthy snacks. Please can we continue to encourage this from as many as possible.

### **Staff’s Recent West Sussex Professional Development Update**

Olivia and Darlene: First Aid Training

Maryen: Safeguarding and Child Protection

Darlene: Introduction to Affirming Autism

Swati and Gaelle: Creating an Autism-Friendly Environment

Anoja, Gaelle, and Magda: Behaviour Strategies

Additionally, all our practitioners are taking regular training on NoodleNow!

### **Friary Preschool Contact Details:**

For general enquiries, these can be emailed to the Friary Preschool using the following email address: [info@friarypreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@friarypreschool.co.uk) or by telephone on 01293 403873.