

Autumn | Issue 1
Sept 2024



Autumn term

Welcome to the Autumn term and the beginning of the new school year. It's been a busy start to the term with lots of new faces.

**What have
we been up
to...**

Our first topic was 'All about me'. We have been learning the preschool rules, engaging in conversations about the summer holidays and our families, creating self-portraits and pictures of our family members and explored our body movements through yoga.



The children have brought in photos of their pets or pets they would like in the future. We shared these as part of a group to help further develop communication and listening skills. Zoe Lawrence kindly offered to bring in her pet Tortoises 'Freddy and Wilma'. The children got the chance to observe and ask questions to learn a bit about them. They got to touch them and tried to get them to eat some leaves!



As you may know we use Ten Town, an award-winning numeracy resource designed by former Reception Class teacher Rebecca Sandy. Created specifically for the early years, it focuses on building strong basic number skills. Ten Town offers an exciting range of online content along with the opportunity to apply the knowledge in practical activities that encourage learning through play. Throughout the year we will focus on a different number/character, so far, we have introduced King One, Tommy Two and Thema Three.



Staff Changes

We have welcomed Miss Chloe Ott to the team as a relief practitioner. Miss Ott has a Level 2 certificate for children and young people.



Fundraising

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our quiz 'n' chips night on Friday 5th July.



We raised just over £390 for the preschool from ticket sales and our raffle. Thanks especially go to John Billings for his quiz-mastery as well as the wonderful team at [The Railway Tavern](#) who supplied the delicious food and a raffle prize.

As you shop “easyfundraising.co.uk” is another way you could also help raise money for the preschool. You can do so by following the link below to register your support and a percentage of what you spend will be donated to the pre-school.
www.easyfundraising.org.uk

“**My School Fund**”, in association with Sainsbury’s, Argos and ESPO, links your spend at these shops with your chosen school, meaning that every time you make a purchase you both benefit. Both the school and you will receive an eGift card to spend at participating retailers based on a percentage of your overall spend. Visit www.myschoolfund.org for more details and to sign up for free.

Once a month we will post our “**Wish Tree**”. This is our way of asking for small donations of items for snack, like apples or bread sticks, daily cleaning products like anti-bacterial spray or resources we can use for messy play like shaving foam or corn-flour. If you are able to help by donating one of the items listed, it helps to keep some of our costs down. Look out for the post and thank you in advance for your support.

HELP!

Do you feel like you could sometimes help with our fundraising events but feel you could not commit to joining the committee? We have a WhatsApp group dedicated to this. You can join the group and offer your help as and when you can. Please speak to Abby or Hollie to be added.

COMING UP!!!

Thursday 31st October – **Halloween light trail**

Thursday 28th November to 5th December – **Fakenham Christmas tree festival.**

Friday 29th + Saturday 30th November – **Wreath making**

**Babies
and
Toddlers**



Things to remember...

Please do not park your car in the horse-shoe area outside of the school gates or in the school car park. We appreciate that parking outside school can be a challenge, but this area needs to be kept clear for emergency vehicles, buses and deliveries.

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home and let the preschool know. If your child has sickness or diarrhea they should not return to preschool until 48 hours after the last time it occurred; if your child has been given Paracetamol on a morning, they would normally attend preschool, they should remain at home and if your child has a continuous new cough, high temperature and/or cold symptoms they should also remain at home. This will help protect us all. Thank you.

Funding

Preschool funding is currently available for 3–4-year-old's. This consists of 15 hours universal entitlement for all children which becomes available the term after their 3rd birthday. In addition, for working parents of 3–4-year-olds this can be extended to 30 hours per week. Working parents/carers of 2 year olds can claim 15 hours funding or there is funding available if you are claiming certain benefits. To keep up to date with what you are entitled to, go to the Childcare Choices website at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Did you know that we may be entitled to £300 additional funding to improve the education of your 3 or 4 year old? This is called Early Years Pupil Premium, EYPP and to find out if you qualify call the Family Information Service on 0344 800 8020 or go to www.norfolk.gov.uk/eypp

The Preschool Committee

We are a committee run preschool and without our committee the preschool would have to close. We meet once a month, usually at the beginning of the month on a Thursday from 7.30pm until 8.30/9pm. During these meetings we discuss the past month at preschool, the preschool finances, we plan fundraising events to support the preschool and discuss and make decisions, with regard to the running of the preschool. It's a great opportunity for you to get involved and have your say in supporting the preschool and providing the best experiences for your child and the other children. If you would like to be involved, please message or speak to a member of staff/committee.

Our current committee members are:

Laura Cross (Chairperson)	Zoe Lawrence
Will Wilson (Secretary)	Becca Reynolds
Diane Calvert (Treasurer)	Amy Pulfer
Abigail Jenkins (Preschool Manager)	Danielle Edwards
Charlie Wood	Zoe Smith
Chloe Ott	Laura Harvey

Policies

The following policies were recently reviewed and adopted by the committee: SEND, Working in partnership with other agencies, Ethical information sharing, Confidentiality and client access to records, Equality and diversity, Compliance statement, Fees and charges, Invoice, Responsibilities of staff in an emergency, Equipment & resources, Use of volunteers, Data protection, Retention of records and Complaints Procedure.

Copies are available on our website or speak to Abby or Hollie.

Dates for the Diary

24 th October	Last day of term
25 th Oct-1 st Nov	Half Term Holiday
31 st Oct	Halloween light trail
4 th Nov-20 th Dec	Autumn term 2
28th Nov - 5th Dec	Fakenham Christmas tree festival
29th + 30 th Nov	Wreath making

Norfolk County Council

2024-2025

Norfolk Model Calendar

This calendar applies to community schools, community special schools, VC schools and nursery schools and sets the days on which school transport will be provided. While most Foundation, VA, foundation special, free schools and academy trusts who are able to set their own dates, adopt the Norfolk Model, we advise you to check with your child's school before making holiday or other commitments.

September 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October 2024						
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28	29	30	31			

November 2024						
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December 2024						
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January 2025						
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February 2025						
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March 2025						
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31						

April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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July 2025						
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August 2025						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Key : White dates - schools open to pupils
Yellow dates - pupil holiday
Red dates - bank holiday

Five staff training days will be selected from yellow dates, we suggest 2 & 3 September, 25 October, 6 January and 22 April. Some may choose to use twilight hours for staff training instead of some or all of these.

**School
starters
2025**

Reception class applications for September 2025 will open on 23 September 2024 and close on 15th January 2025.



IS YOUR CHILD DUE TO START SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2025?

**We would like to invite you to visit St Mary's Community
Primary School at one of our open sessions.**

***Open sessions will include a tour of the school and seeing the
Reception classroom. You will also have the opportunity to
meet our Headteacher and the Reception Team.***



**Please register your interest by visiting our website at
www.beetleyschool.co.uk**

***If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the
school on 01362 860114 or via email at: [office@st-
marysbeetley.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-marysbeetley.norfolk.sch.uk)***