

Spring | Issue 2
March 2025



Spring term 2

We are now a few weeks into the last half of the Spring term. Please remember to apply or reconfirm your funding codes before 31st March to use the support from April. Visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk for more information.

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

We started last half term exploring the theme 'Burns night'. We have talked about Scotland, made collages using the Scottish flag as our inspiration and made shortbread biscuits to take home.



We continued with 'Celebrating Chinese New Year'. We painted a junk model dragon head to use to create a dragon dance, we explored Chinese numerals and tasted some Chinese food at snack times. We enjoyed listening to the story of 'The Great Race' which we also acted out.



‘Doctors and Hospitals’ was our next theme. Our home corner was turned into a doctor’s surgery with lots of babies to take care of. We talked about what happens when we feel poorly, how to wash our hands properly and the importance of this when eating and after coughing and sneezing.



We were then on to ‘Valentine’s day’. We had lots of fun with Valentine’s theme messy and sensory trays which encouraged both fine and gross motor skills such as pinching, scooping and brushing. We also made some delicious heart shaped pizzas to take home.



‘Hairdressers’ was the next theme. We talked about the differences between people and what hairdressers do. We had a great time in our role play Hairdressers.

We’ve celebrated ‘Pancake day’. The children made a batch of pancakes every morning to enjoy as part of our snack alongside some fruit. We talked about why we wash hands and wear apron. We measured, weighed and mixed ingredients. We then talked about the change once cooked. We also enjoyed roleplay trays.



We shared some of our favourite stories and acted them out in small world and role play to celebrate 'World Book Day'. The children came to preschool dressed as some of their favourite characters.



We explored the theme 'Fairy tales'. We have built castles out of bricks and large loose parts, we played in sensory trays such as our princess and the pea tray and we planted our own magic beans in the hope we grow our very own beanstalks!



We have been talking about 'Dentists' and learning how to care for our teeth. We turned our home corner into a dental surgery. We explored the ways we can keep our teeth healthy, choosing water or milk to drink, eating low sugar foods and brushing. We had a special visitor, Bobby Brush the puppet, he taught the children how to brush their teeth which the children then practiced on Bobby and themselves after lunch with the brush bought by our chair Charlie Wood for each child.



Betsy Bear has continued her adventures. The children love sharing and hearing what she has been up to!



Staff Changes

There have been no staff changes.

Fundraising



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.

‘**PRESCHOOL WISHES**’ located on the entrance fence. This is our way of asking for small donations of items for 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, it helps to keep some of our costs down. Just hand one of the dowels to a member of staff to let them know you will be able to donate the item. Thank you in advance for your support.

FUNRAISING HELP Our fundraising events are essential to support the running of the preschool and we need as much help as possible. Do you feel like you could sometimes help with our fundraising events but could not commit to joining the committee? We have a WhatsApp group dedicated to this. In this group there are discussions about different events we could hold, up and coming events, jobs/tasks required before the event and support at the event. You can join the group and offer your help as and when you can. Please speak to Abby or Hollie to be added.

Babies
and
Toddlers



Beetley Bears
Run by Beetley and District Preschool

Stay and Play group.
Age range: 0-4 years
£3 per family of up to 2 children,
includes a snack for the children
and a hot drink for adults.
Additional children are 50p.
9.30am-11am

Beetley Village Hall
High House Road
Beetley
NR20 4BY

Thursdays
Term Time

01362 860860
office@beetley-preschool.org

**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-olds. 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 Monday from 7.30pm. 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 regards 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:

Charlie Wood (Chairperson)

Will Wilson (Vice Chair)

Laura Cross (Treasurer)

Amy Pulfer (Secretary)

Zoe Lawrence (H&S Officer and Fundraising coordinator)

Abigail Jenkins (Preschool Manager)

Danielle Edwards, Laura Harvey, Becca Reynolds

Policies

The policies which are currently being reviewed and adopted are: Staff and recruitment. Updated copies will be able on our website soon or speak to Abby or Hollie.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 28 th March	Bingo
Friday 4 th April	Activity Afternoon
7 th – 22 nd April	Easter Holidays
23 rd April – 18 th July	Summer term
Sunday 4 th May	Duck Race (Details to follow)
Monday 19 th May	Activity Afternoon/morning
16 th -20 th June	Sponsored Bike-a-thon (to be confirmed)
Tuesday 8 th July	Sports day (to be confirmed)
Wednesday 16 th July	Trip (to be confirmed)
Friday 18 th July	Last day of preschool
Monday 21 st July	Graduation



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						
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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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30	31					

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						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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.