



The Play Times

Christmas edition December 2024 - Issue 97

Dates for your diary:

- * **1st December** - Christmas Hamper Raffle Tickets on sale!
 - * **Thursday 19th Dec** - No sessions today -
11-1pm Christmas Party all children welcome [no parents needed]
1.15 pm Christmas Sing-a-long for all children and families.
[Parents/grandparents must accompany children to sing-a-long]
 - * **Thursday 19th December** - End of term. - No normal sessions
 - * **Monday 6th January 2024** - Spring term begins
- Don't forget to check out the Activities@Home sheet to see what else we get up to.**



Updates

This term is whizzing by we have been very busy - we had some great feedback for the Halloween activities we that we did, but still have lots more to do. Just a quick newsletter giving you all you need to know for what is coming up. You will already have noticed the increase in all things glittery! Our Christmas song sheets will be sent out soon for our 'sing-a-long' on the last day of term. We really hope you will be able to join us.

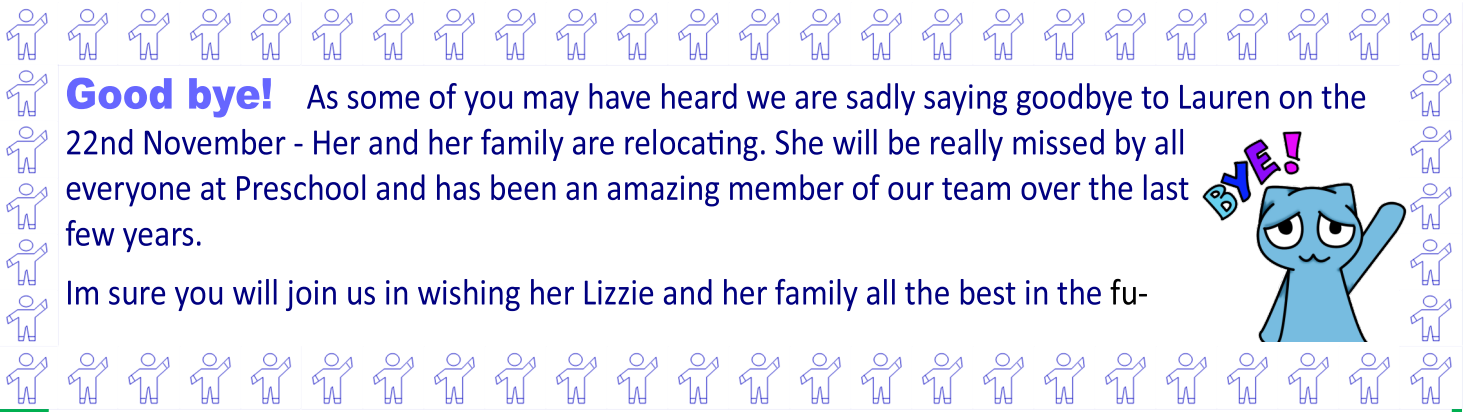
Christmas Raffle

The Christmas Hamper raffle is live! Donations are coming in steadily - thank you! These are then made up into hampers [consisting of something for both children and adults in each hamper] Suggestion posters are up at preschool and we will share via WhatsApp

Raffle tickets are on sale from 1st of December - cash or BACS transfer [BACS please reference child's name & raffle] £1 per ticket/6 tickets for £5

The raffle will be drawn on the morning of the Christmas Party. To enable you to collect your prize when you come along if you're one of the lucky winners.





Good bye! As some of you may have heard we are sadly saying goodbye to Lauren on the 22nd November - Her and her family are relocating. She will be really missed by all everyone at Preschool and has been an amazing member of our team over the last few years.



Im sure you will join us in wishing her Lizzie and her family all the best in the fu-

Christmas Party & Festive Sing-a-long

Christmas is approaching and playgroup is about to start looking all festive with our decorations and Christmas trees going up soon - keep a look out!



This is just to explain how things work and what our Christmas arrangements are.

See below...

Christmas Party - Thursday 19th December, 11am - 1pm.

No 'normal' sessions today



- **10.55am** Children arrive for a prompt start.
- Children's Entertainment, Party food, a visit by.. You know who!!
[Parents do not need to stay with their child for this part]
- **1pm PROMPT** Party finishes - parents to collect your child and go home or join us for the Festive sing-a-long
- **1.15 approx. pm - festive sing-a-long - followed by Mulled wine and Mince pies.** [alternative refreshments available] All invited - parents/ grandparents/ carers

Please just let us know how many will be attending to allow us to cater appropriately - we are limited to 3 adults per child [space restrictions]



Guinea Pigs - Christmas Holidays

Our Pet Guinea pigs Fudge and Twinkle are looking for their Christmas Holiday home.

If you think you can help please let us know. You need to be willing to give them lots of cuddles and clean them out when needed - all equipment/food provided.



Outdoor/Indoor clothing - Reminders

As the weather is forecast to be very cold next week and we aim to go outdoors as much as possible-whatever the weather- **PLEASE** ensure your child/ren have appropriate clothing for the weather. **MITTENS** not gloves unless they can do these independently. You can leave a pair of **NAMED wellington boots in the lobby** - especially if your child likes to play with the mud kitchen or jump in puddles. [We are building up our stock of spares but cannot guarantee the sizes available]. **Waterproof trousers/tops** are useful too however please try to have ones that are separates as apposed to all in ones—unless they can dress themselves as multiple children awaiting help is a challenge! Its better to **dress your child in layers** so that we can add or remove as appropriate.



Also remember please do not put your child in their best clothes we do get messy!
"there's no such thing as bad weather - just bad clothing!"

Your junk is our treasure.. T

Thank you for the donations of yogurt pots [medium sized, used for glue pots etc] ,cardboard tubes/ egg boxes and small boxes etc - do keep them coming.

We also need Newspapers for the Guinea pig cage. And if you have spare craft resources - we are always happy to take them off your hands too.

Fees & Charges review

As you will all have heard the budget didn't do any favours for small businesses/ charities, we love that our hard working team get better benefits for all that they do - However with the rises in National minimum wage and other costs to playgroup [including maintenance of our own building], but no increase in the funding we receive for each funded 2,3 & 4 year old our income decreases every time. This means we will unfortunately be having to look very closely at our fees and charges in the new year.

Sessions/Funding

Please remember if you are claiming the 30 hours **YOU MUST** re-confirm eligibility **TERMLY** and have a valid code before the end of the month before a new term starts.

If you think you may be eligible for this in the **Spring term** please go onto the [child-care choices](#) website which explains all you need to know [the site has lots of other information about other forms of funding options too]. Again you **MUST** confirm eligibility and get your code before the start of a new term. **Sessions get busier after Christmas** so if you are thinking of increasing your sessions, adding extra sessions or extending to full days - please speak to us as soon as possible to check availability, —we book a term in advance. **Summer term is usually our busiest.**

Term Dates

End of Term - Thursday 19th December

Spring term 2025

Mon 6th January - Friday 4th April

[half term 17th-21st Feb]

Summer term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April - Fri 18th July

Mon 5th May bank Holiday



Wishing you all a
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Our fundraising committee have a few things lined up for next year so we have included them in this list of Things coming up in 2025

- PJ Day
 - Cake Bake Sale
 - Easter Family event - after we return from the Easter holidays
 - May - Annual Sponsored trike ride - children
 - June - Annual Trip - with parents/grandparents/carers
 - Leavers Photographs
 - End of term picnic - all invited
- Plus much more....

Don't forget to check out our [Website](#),