

Sutton-on-the-Hill Pre-School



Winter Newsletter

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Dear Pre-School Families,

Welcome to all our families, both new and old. We hope you enjoyed your Christmas break and that the New Year is off to a promising start!

Pre-school is always a busy place, and we look forward to what this term will bring.

Please take extra care when arriving at or leaving pre-school—the path can become very slippery, even after we've applied salt and grit.

Cold Weather!

As the winter weather continues, please ensure your child has what they need to continue to enjoy the great outdoors. This includes wellies, waterproofs, coats, warm layers, a set of spare clothes (including socks), hats and gloves. Remember to label all removable items with your child's name.

As you will remember, our Next Steps focussed on children dressing and undressing independently, ready to face the great outdoors. We will be asking you for feedback on how effective the Next Steps were. The children certainly impressed us!

Fees & Funding Update

Fees are reviewed each February. As of February 2026, there has been no increase in fees for two years. The fees are £17.64 for 3-4-year-olds, and £24.84 for 2-year-olds, per 3-hour session, payable half-termly. There is an additional voluntary contribution of £2.50 per day for snacks and extra resources (£1.50 for afternoon-only sessions). These contributions provide a daily, healthy range of snacks for all children and enable us to enhance our activities and provision. Whilst basic everyday resources are covered by our fees, the contributions enable extra activities such as weekly cooking or baking and forest school sessions, and provide seasonal resources, and consumables for special family craft events. Whilst these contributions are optional and not required if your child is sick or on holiday, insufficient contributions would limit the range of activities we can create for all our children.

Invoices are issued at the end of each half-term and must be paid before the next half-term; fees remain due if your child is absent or on holiday. For extended absences, please speak with Krisztina or Margot (Committee Chair).

TERM DATES

Mon 5th January - Fri 13th February (inset day).

The children's last day in pre-school will be **Thurs 12th February**.

The next half term will run from **Mon 23rd February - Friday 27th March** with no inset days.

A full list of term dates are available on our website.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Breakfast Morning

Tues 10th February, 9-11am
All families welcome (incl. those not in session!)

Refreshments will be available, donations welcome.

Easter Fun Week

23rd - 27th March

A week of Easter and Spring themed fun

Easter Service & Pre-School Fun

Thursday 26th March

Join us in Church for an Easter Service before an Easter Parade & Easter Egg Hunt back at Pre-school.

Upcoming Events

We hope you can join us at our next two seasonal events:

- Our Valentine's Breakfast on Tuesday 10th February - get ready to craft!
- Our Easter Celebration on Thursday 26th March - more details to follow.

We are also excited to announce a sponsored event taking place during session time in the week commencing 2nd March. The funds raised will benefit all children during the summer term. Due to increasing challenges in organising off-site visits within session times, we plan to invite a special guest to provide an exciting session for all children this summer. More information about these upcoming events will be shared soon.

Help Needed

We have always been lucky enough in the spring term to have a range of baby animals visiting pre-school, previously this has included a calf, lambs, kid goats and even a range ducklings. We are lucky enough to be in a wonderful rural location and would welcome the opportunity to introduce the children to some of these young animals. If you can help in any way, please contact Krisztina. Thank you.

Thank you!

We would like to thank everyone who attended our autumn term events. Your contributions really do help us enhance the children's experiences and opportunities!

Our Christmas raffle raised an astonishing **£694**. It was very kindly supported by local businesses including JWM Joinery, Nestle, The Children's Country House at Sudbury Hall, Newlands Cafe & Farm Shop, Jangala, Don Amott, Hilton Hotels at St George's Park, Rollerworld and London Luxury Candle Supplies. That figure includes any donations made on the Breakfast with Santa morning on which the staff team did a fantastic job in creating a magical Grotto.

The funds you all raised will go towards our big project; refurbishing our deteriorating playground. For a rubberised surface, the estimated total cost is around £20,000. This would be supported by the Village Hall and we are actively seeking grants to assist with funding. If you have any contacts who may be able to help, please let us know!

Sessions

Pre-school becomes busier as we progress through the year, please speak to Krisztina if you wish to change or increase your child's current sessions.

SPACE AVAILABLE

Personal recommendations are incredibly powerful. If your child is enjoying their time at pre-school, please spread the word! Share our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SuttonotHill.P/>) or posts or let us know if you think there's an appropriate venue for one of our pre-school flyers.

COMMITTEE

Our Committee helps make decisions on how pre-school is run, fund-raises and helps run events. We always need at least 5 elected Committee members to keep pre-school running. New Committee members are welcome at any time.

Chair: Margot Colgrave |
Vice-Chair: Charlotte Harrison (Parent) | **Treasurer:** Catherine Bridge | **Secretary:** Kay Prince (Parent) | Sheridan Bennett-Clarke (Parent) and Krisztina Meszaros (Manager).

UNIFORM

Uniform (not compulsory!) is available to order throughout the school year. Shirts and jumpers are available in 3-4 and 5-6 year sizing. Please speak to our team for an order form.

Polo Shirt - Green £10 |
Sweatshirt - Green £12

