



# Ladybird Forest Pre-School

Newsletter - Autumn Term 2 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year, which shares info and updates regarding the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms, as well as updates from some of our team. We hope that you find our newsletter informative, and would like to remind you that you can also find details about the Pre-School, including our policies, on our website <https://ladybirdpre-school.org.uk/>

This term we have enjoyed welcoming to the setting our returner and new starter children. The children should all be proud of themselves for settling in so quickly; starting to make new friends and getting used to the Pre-School routines.

Thank you for the part you have played in helping with the settling in process. Please continue to arrive on time for the start of each session, so that all children benefit from their Circle Time lessons, without disruption. Thanks for your understanding.

We look forward to seeing you after the half-term break.

Kind regards

Amanda Sanders, Pre-School Manager

## Dates for your Diary

Event	Date
<b>2024</b>	
Last Day of Term	Last Day of Term Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October
October Holiday Club	w/c 28 <sup>th</sup> October. Places still available
Pre-School re-opens	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November
Settling-In Reports	w/c 4 <sup>th</sup> November. Details below
Ladybird Christmas Bazaar	Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 11.00am-1.30pm
Christmas Tree Festival	Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov - Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> December. Details below
Calendar Photos	w/c 2 <sup>nd</sup> December. Details to follow
Children's Christmas Concert	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2.15pm <b>(No After Pre-School Club)</b>
Children's Christmas Parties	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December. Details to follow
Christmas Activity Fun Day (or Parents & Carers' Christmas Shopping Day!)	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 8am-4pm. Details below
Last Day of Term	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December



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2025	
Pre-School re-opens	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January
February Half-Term	w/c 17 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February
Pre-School re-opens	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February
Parents' Evening	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March. Details to follow
Open Day for new starters	Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March. TBC
Mother's Day Afternoon Tea	Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> March. TBC
Easter Holidays	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April - Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April
Easter Holiday Club	w/c 7 <sup>th</sup> April
Pre-School re-opens	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April
May Bank Holiday	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May
Bingo & Chips Night	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May. TBC
May Half-Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May
Pre-School re-opens	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Sports Day	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June. Details to follow
Dads Breakfast	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> June. Details to follow
AGM & new starters' meeting	June, TBC
Summer Fete	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> July. Details to follow
Leavers' Party	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July. TBC
Last day of term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July
Summer Holiday Club	w/c 21 <sup>st</sup> July, w/c 28 <sup>th</sup> July and w/c 4 <sup>th</sup> August

## General News and Events:

### Awards:

The Pre-School will be working towards the Healthy Standards Awards in the new year. This award will demonstrate our commitment to promoting and improving the "Healthy Workforce".

### Settling-In Report:

Your child's Settling-In report will be published on Tapestry during w/c 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024. This will be a summary report and you will receive a more in-depth report ahead of Parents' Evening in March 2025.

### October Holiday Club 2024:

October Holiday Club is running from Monday 28/10/234 to Friday 01/ 11/24, 9am - 4pm. We still have some places available, so please contact [admin@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk](mailto:admin@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk) to book in.



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## Forest School:

We are very excited to introduce the children to Forest School next term! They will get to meet our Forest School mascots, Hermie and Wormie, and learn all about the outdoor world. Please look out on Tapestry for information about what day your child will be attending Forest School. Thank you for ensuring the children have wellie boots in a drawstring bag. Forest School runs in all weathers, except a thunderstorm, so please remember to make sure your child is wrapped up for their day during the colder months.

## St Andrews Christmas Tree Festival 30<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December:

We will be taking part in the St. Andrews Christmas Tree Festival, so pop it in your diaries and see your child's decoration on the tree. Votes will also be held for the best decorated trees!

## Christmas Activity Fun Day, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 9am - 4pm:

We will be holding a Christmas Activity Fun Day (or a Parent and Carer Christmas Shopping Day!) for children aged 3 - 7 years. The day will include fun activities and games run by the Ladybird team. The cost is £24.95 per child, including a healthy lunch, morning and afternoon snacks. To book your space, please complete the form here:

<https://forms.gle/kvkE5WYp9LKfGLHs8>

## Fundraising and Projects:

Ladybird is a registered charity, and monies raised from fundraising is massively important to us, allowing us to make improvements to the Pre-School. This year, we aim to raise funds to replace the damaged access ramp and provide a permanent covering, so it can be used in all weather. We hope to have raised enough funds from the Christmas Bazaar and other initiatives to do this work over Easter holidays.

Other future projects include:

- installing the last air-con unit in the Bumblebee room.
- buying a larger hamster cage.

**Christmas Bazaar and Raffle Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 11am - 1.30pm:** Thanks to the parents and carers who attended our Fundraising Evening this month - it's great to have your help. Thank you to everyone who has helped so far in selling raffle tickets and donating raffle prizes. Prizes include some lovely hampers, a cordless Hoover, cash, vouchers, and many more. There will be a prize for the parent/carer who sells the most tickets, so please keep going!



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Other ways to help:

- can you spare an hour or so on the day to help out on a stall? We are looking for 4 more helpers, so please email [manager@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk](mailto:manager@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk) to help out
- we are looking for donations for the Posh and Tacky tombolas
- can you donate an item for the refreshment counter at the Bazaar? There will be a sign-up sheet on the Parents Board after half-term. Please let us know what you'll be able to provide. Thank you!

**World Cerebral Palsy Day 6<sup>th</sup> October:**

Thanks for your help in raising £16.50, which we donated to a local charity supporting children and families living with cerebral palsy and other disabilities:  
<https://www.embrace.org.uk/>

**Ladybird Team Updates:**

**Mindfulness and Wellbeing:**

At Ladybirds, we aim to ensure that children can understand their emotions and how to deal with them or ask for help. The children have been enjoying our Healthy Mover activities before lunchtime and also talking about emotions and why we sometimes feel different. We hope over the course of their time at Ladybirds, they feel safe to be able to express themselves however they need to!

Your Wellbeing: We are passionate about everybody's wellbeing, and would like to share contacts and numbers for you to use if you need support.

- Anxiety UK - 03444 775 774 (helpline)
- Beat - 0808 801 0677 (Eating disorder advice)
- CALM - 0800 58 58 58
- No Panic - 0300 7729844
- [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk) for other advice and contacts.

*Mandy & Jade, Wellbeing Leads*

**Physical Activity and Nutrition:**

The children have been learning about healthy eating and oral health. They have enjoyed brushing our toy teeth and learning about how to do this properly. Please see some facts below regarding toothbrushing and some songs to listen to.

Brush at least twice daily for about 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste - brush last thing at night before bed and at least on 1 other occasion.

Parents or carers should brush the teeth.



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Use children's fluoride toothpaste containing no less than 1,000ppm of fluoride (check label) unless a dentist advises family toothpaste containing between 1,350ppm and 1,500ppm fluoride.

Use only a pea-sized amount of toothpaste.

Spit out after brushing and don't rinse - if you rinse, the fluoride won't work as well.

- <https://youtu.be/QRu68na4Qw>
- [https://youtu.be/wCio\\_xVlgQ0](https://youtu.be/wCio_xVlgQ0)

*Jade - PANCo (Physical Activity and Nutrition Coordinator)*

### Phonics:

This term during our morning Phonics sessions at Circle Time, we have been very busy learning how to all sit in a circle and take turns. During the sessions we have shown each other lots and lots of lovely Show and Tell items, including pictures of our families, stories and things from the summer.

In Autumn Term 2, we will run Maths during morning Circle Time and Phonics will run during the afternoons. We will be starting to look at letters and learning their sounds. Each Phonics session we will recap the six graphemes, the pronunciation of the letters within words and the rhyme. We will then play a game or take part in an activity related to the graphemes (letters).

*Tiffany, Phonics Coordinator*

### Fees and funding:

Your invoice for Autumn Term 2 will be with you w/c 11<sup>th</sup> November and is due 13<sup>th</sup> December. Later this term, I'll remind you to apply for / reconfirm your 30 hour code, if applicable. I'll also send you the Parent and Carer Agreement form to secure funding for the Spring Term.

If you have any questions, about fees, funding, Holiday Clubs or would like to be on a waiting list for any available sessions this year, please contact me at [admin@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk](mailto:admin@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk).

*Victoria Grimes, Administration Manager*

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## Other info:

### November/December Birthdays 2024:

- **Happy 3rd Birthday:** Nate
- **Happy 4th Birthday:** Mabel M, Theo, Tommy
- **Staff Birthday:** Stella, Tiaera, Hannah, Lianne



**Reading book:** Reading with your child is hugely beneficial. We politely ask that you read the books we provide with your child, complete the reading log, and return at least fortnightly, so that the books can be changed. All children starting school in September 2025 will start receiving phonics books alongside their other books, helping them get ready for school. Thank you.

## Donations:

We are looking for donations of spare socks, please!

**Nappies:** If your child is in nappies, please ensure there are spare nappies and wipes in your child's bag. Alternatively, there is a charge of £1 per nappy if you need to use our resources.

**Facebook:** Please follow the Ladybird Forest Pre-School page on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083347660958> You'll see photos of the Pre-School activities and recent events. Thank you

**Name labels:** If you would like to order stick on name labels for your child's clothing and bags, please consider using Stikins Name Labels For School Clothes (<https://www.stikins.co.uk/> ). Quote 36232 to raise commission for the Pre-School