

Pinner Parish Pre-school newsletter

Spring term



The Pinner Parish Preschool Committee has recently set up a fundraising code for Stikins, a company who makes name labels for clothing, lunchboxes etc, as well as an AmazonSmile account.

When you shop at Stikins or AmazonSmile a percentage of your purchase price will go to the preschool. It's a great way to buy the things you usually would and support the preschool at the same time.

Stikins

To use the preschool's fundraising code, please visit www.stikins.co.uk

Select the labels you'd like to buy and then at checkout please enter the code: **36247**

AmazonSmile

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organisation.

To set Pinner Parish Preschool as your charitable organisation please visit: <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1172929-0> and select 'Pinner Parish Preschool'.

If you have any questions, please speak with Melinda (Eva's mum) or Shelley (Oliver's mum).

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2022!

We hope you enjoyed your half term break and thought now would be a good opportunity to update you on what the children have been learning and what activities we have planned for the remainder of the term.

[This newsletter has important information and reminders so please keep it to hand.](#)

School absence: If your child is absent from pre-school for 2+ weeks in a term, funding may be withdrawn and you will have to make up the shortfall. (This does not include periods covered by a sickness note from a GP.)

Labelling all items: Please remember to label all of your children's clothing and belongings clearly.

New Committee Members: The committee is the driving force behind our preschool – we are a charity and without the committee the preschool wouldn't exist. We have several vacant roles on the committee, so please speak with Melinda or Shelley about how you can get involved.

Reminders

- Show and Tell - every Monday and Wednesday
- Thursday 3 March – World Book Day. Children dress up as their favourite character and bring a £1 donation.

Farewell to Siobhan

We're very sad to say that Siobhan will be leaving us at the end of April. She's been a highly valued member of the team and we wish her well with her future plans.

Last half term

Cold and frosty mornings: In January the children loved creating snowy and frosty impressions using different materials such as bath foam, paint, chalk and cornflour. We then recapped our lesson about hibernation from the previous term and explored how animals will be waking up to warmer weather soon. We also experimented with melting ice and watching it turn into water.

Bird watch: We welcomed the milder January weather by making bird food (which the children took home) and we talked about birds returning to their nests. This topic will continue this term where children will learn about life cycle and growth.

Chinese New Year: The Year of Tiger was celebrated with much fun and flair making lanterns and tiger faces. We cooked some noodles and used chopsticks to eat.

Healthy eating and oral hygiene have now formally become part of EYFS and we've continued to talk about it using different activities. Children are learning the importance of eating healthy, looking after their health and how bad food choices affect their teeth.

Valentine's Day: Children had fun making cards for Valentine's Day. We used this opportunity to talk about how we express our emotions and connected it to [Children's Mental Health Week](#).

This half term

This half term we will be learning about Pancake Day, visiting Pinner Library for World Book Day, and celebrating Mother's Day and Easter.

World Book Day: On Thursday 3 March it's World Book Day and children are encouraged to come to preschool dressed as their favourite character. Please use things you have at home and don't buy an outfit. Please bring £1 and all proceeds will go to the preschool.

Coffee mornings

Throughout the year the Pinner Parish Preschool Committee will organise coffee mornings which is a lovely way for the parents to get to know each other. Parents drop their child/ children at preschool and then we go to a local coffee shop. The coffee mornings will most likely start again this term so please keep an eye out on the PPP WhatsApp group for dates.

Curriculum and child-led learning

Phonics, writing and mark-making: We continue to work with the older children to recognise sounds and letters. They are learning to write their names and learn basic numeracy skills in preparation for starting school. The younger children are 'mark-making' which is an important part of learning to write; we encourage this through drawing and painting activities and other malleable and sensory play. 'Letter of the week' theme will start this term and children will be encouraged to practice writing the letter on worksheets and discussing things that start with the letter by bringing items for show and tell.

Show and tell: Every Monday and Wednesday we would like children to bring a favourite toy, book or other thing that they like and find interesting. The idea is to help children organise their thoughts about the particular item and develop confidence to speak in a group. They can also bring things related to the 'Letter of the week'.

Sports and Dancing: We continue to work with Super Sports and Diddy Dancing on a weekly basis, and the children love participating in these activities.

Other weekly activities: Each week we have a full programme for the children including daily story-time sessions which aim to promote a lifelong love of reading and broaden the children's vocabulary. We also run cooking sessions which help with developing the children's motor skills and is great fun for staff and children alike.

Spring term dates

Wednesday 5 January – Friday 11 February

Half term: Monday 14 Feb – Friday 18 Feb

Monday 21 February – Friday 1 April

Summer term dates

Wednesday 20 April – Friday 27 May

May Bank Holiday – Monday 2 May

Half term: Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

Monday 6 June – Thursday 21 July

Friday 22 July – deferred Jubilee Bank Holiday

Get in touch

If you have any questions, please contact Salimah:
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