

Combe Pre-school Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2023

Welcome to the new academic year. We are so excited to be back after the summer break and would like to give a warm welcome to Heidi, George R, George D, Lyra, Oscar and Zoe and their families who will be joining us this term.



Friday 1st September – Inset Day,

Monday 4th September- Inset Day,

Tuesday 5th September – Autumn Term 1 starts at 8.50am,

Friday 20th October – End of term,

Monday23rd to Friday 27th October – Half Term Holiday,

Monday 30th October – Inset Day,

Tuesday 31st October – Autumn Term 2 starts at 8.50am.

A Few Thank You’s

We would like to say a big thank you to Amy and Bill Irvine who kindly leant us some bunting and flags for our Sports Day event at the end of last term. They helped to make the occasion much brighter, and they helped to guide the children to the finishing line during each race.

Our Cream teas fundraising event was extremely busy, and we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who baked cakes and came to help us on the day. This is one of our biggest fundraising events and helps us to raise a large amount of money for our Pre-school and After-school Club.

Funding Forms

Please remember to return your funding form. If you have already done this and it’s your first-time claiming funding for your child, then please remember to bring in a copy of your child’s birth certificate or passport so that a member of staff can check your child’s date of birth.

Thank You

School Dinners

As it’s the start of the new term, please remember to order your child’s school dinner to ensure they have a nice hot meal at lunch time.

Tooth brushing

We will be continuing to promote good oral health by encouraging your children to brush their teeth after lunch. This extra brush will help ensure your child has an extra amount of Fluoride on their teeth to help prevent tooth decay. If you would like to find out more about the importance of looking after your children’s teeth at different ages then please visit [Children's teeth - NHS (www.nhs.uk)](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-teeth-and-gums/taking-care-of-childrens-teeth/)

New - Woodland Explorers

We are pleased to announce that we will be starting a Woodland Explorers outdoor play session during our Monday sessions from Monday 18th September. The staff will take the children to an area on the playing field to engage in some lovely outdoor activities. If your child attends on a Monday please can you make sure your child arrives at Pre-school in their waterproofs and boots, ready for this session. We do have a small number of waterproof all-in-ones and trousers, and we are happy for your child to use our clothing if you do not have any at home. The staff will be putting a list up in pre-school, so if any parents or Grandparents would like to come along to help with this session, then please feel free to sign up on the list. Any help would be gratefully received.

If we have a heavy downpour of rain on a Monday morning, then we may just take the children for a walk or cancel the session. We may temporarily stop this session when the weather starts to become too cold for the children, but we will let you know when we will re-start them. Please speak to member of staff if you would like some more information on these sessions.

Lending Library

Our lending library box is currently situated under the lunch box bench, but in nicer weather we might place this outside. Your child is welcome to borrow some books to take home and read to help them to foster a love of reading. Please fill in your child’s library card contained in the small plastic box before taking a book home.

Coats, Boots and Waterproofs

As the weather starts to get colder and wetter, please ensure you bring in a coat and boots to help keep your children warm and dry this Autumn. You are welcome to bring in some waterproofs as well. Don’t worry if you don’t have any, as we have some spare waterproofs at pre-school. Please can you make sure that coats, boots, and waterproofs have your child’s name inside, as this makes it easier for the staff to find your child’s items.

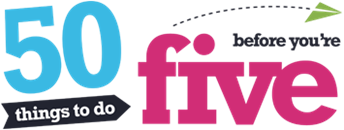
Class Dojo

If your child is new to pre-school, then you should have received an invite via email to join our Class Dojo parents’ communication system. The staff will send you photographs of ‘Wow’ moments (important learning moments) along with news of events, and focus planning sheets for you to view to gain a snapshot of what they have been learning at Pre-school.

If you have any important information, e.g. if your child is ill or if you have any requests to change your child’s sessions or wish to book your child into our After-school Club, then please email Andrea at [info@combepreschool.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:info@combepreschool.onmicrosoft.com) , as we don’t use our Class Dojo system for these purposes.

WellComm Screening

From September, once the children have settled into pre-school, the staff will once again be screening the children using our WellComm screening tool kit to see if the children speech and language is where it should be for their age and stage of development. Your child’s keyperson will be able to give you feedback once this has been done.



Parents and carers of under-fives in Oxfordshire can now access a list of low and no-cost (local) activities to help promote early language development. With information, guidance and supporting resources, you can build a memory bank of your child's special moments – from playing in the rain (#29 Pitter Patter), building dens (#33 Home from Home) to making potions (#17 Hocus Pocus Potions). Find out more: <https://oxfordshire.50thingstodo.org>

Easy Fundraising

If you enjoy shopping online, then you can still help us raise funds for pre-school and after-school club by creating an account and visiting retailers through this site. Companies will donate a percentage of money to our pre-school if you use this site whilst shopping online. You can access the link via our website or by visiting <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/?v=c>.

Website [www.comepreschool.co.uk](http://www.comepreschool.co.uk)

Our website is regularly updated with news and events, and you can also view our calendar dates for this academic year, so please take a look from time to time.

Facebook page [Combe Pre-School & After-School Club - Home | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/combepreschoolandafterschool)

Don’t forget to like our Facebook page, where you can keep up to date with events and gain useful information such as activity ideas and information concerning the early years sector.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

Best Wishes

Andrea, Lisa, Anne-Marie, Kate, Becky and Chloe.