



NEWSLETTER - November 2018

Business Manager (sessions) -

Penny Harland penny.harland@croftpreschool.com

Finance Officer (invoices) - lynn.reardon@croftpreschool.com

Business Officer (funding) - bev.swindell@croftpreschool.com

Telephone 01925 764565 **Email** admin@croftpreschool.com

Welcome back!

I hope everyone has had a lovely half-term holiday with all your loved ones.

During the break, I have been further developing our outdoor Writer's Work Shed and Reading Retreat. We have also invested in tuff tray stands to allow the children better accessibility to planned activities.

This half-term our areas of learning will be focused around notable occasions such as Bonfire night, Diwali, World Science Day, Armistice Day, Children in-Need, Road Safety Week, Thanksgiving Day, St. Andrew's Day and the start of Advent. We will be looking at 'People who help us' as a common theme.

(Learning plans are visible on the Parent information and Learning boards).

Tapestry

The staff team have worked tirelessly to implement activities associated with our areas of learning and subsequently making observations and assessments using Tapestry. This is the Early Years Online Learning Journal which allows us to track a child's progress using the EYFS framework and Characteristics of Effective Learning.

Many parents have returned their consent forms for this before the half-term holidays, so their accounts could be activated over the break. For those who haven't done so already, can you return your consent forms as soon as possible please to activate your accounts. Thank you for your patience whilst we continue to become more familiar with the software.

Extra-curricular Activities

Multi-Sports (including football) We've had a visit from Aaron of Sports Junior Academy to explore how we develop multi-sports activities. He will be returning this week as a Superhero to tie-in with our 'People who help us' theme.

Yoga and Dance Kate U. and Kate V. have been using their respective yoga and dance experience to explore these as a way of developing the children's expressive arts and physical development.

Forest School We will also be having a visit from Fairy Forest School this week to explore our options in re-establishing our Forest School provision.

Gardening The children have been very helpful in planting bulbs in our Sensory Garden over the last few weeks. We look forward to seeing them bloom in the spring.

Languages We have been identifying different countries on the World Map (both on the Wall Map and our new World Map Rug) and talking about their respective spoken languages. We have learnt different ways of saying 'hello' in other languages and have been counting in French, Spanish, German, Japanese and Chinese. We've also learnt to sing Frere Jacques and have been identifying different animals of the world.

Health and Safety

Thank you for your continued support in aiming to drop-off and collect your children promptly and swiftly. It really does help in settling the children in the morning and keeping them safe; It allows us to maintain our legal obligation to comply with Ofsted's statutory adult staff to child ratios. In addition, for fire safety reasons, by minimising handover times, we are able to keep the front door clear as possible as it is a marked fire exit.



Bonfire Night and Fire safety

We've been talking to the children about keeping ourselves safe on Bonfire night. If anyone's venturing out tonight to celebrate the occasion, please stay safe.

Children in Need

Friday 16th November marks this year's Children in Need day. We would like to celebrate the occasion by having a pyjama day if the children would like to come dressed in pyjamas/onesies/brightly spotted clothes. A donation of £1 per child is suggested towards the cause.

Christmas Performance

Our Christmas Performance this year is 'Old Uncle Sam' and is scheduled for Wednesday 12th December at 10.45am. A separate letter regarding tickets (@ £1 each) and attendance will be sent out soon, along with Christmas raffle tickets (@ £1 each). For those able to attend the Christmas performance, we will be requesting parents to arrive by 10.30am for us to register and escort you all into the school hall in line with the school's safeguarding policy.

We kindly request that you return any raffle ticket stubs to us by Friday 7th December so that the draw can take place on Monday 10th December. If you choose not to participate, we would be grateful if you could return any unused raffle tickets so that they may be passed on in good time.

Christmas Party, Calendars and Fundraising

Our Christmas party is scheduled for Friday 14th December (1:15-2.45pm), which also coincides with Christmas jumper day, if your children would like to come in festive clothing that day. Tickets will be sold at £1 per child. The children will also be making 2 handmade calendars each. These will also be available to purchase at a suggested donation of £1 each.

The proceeds from the Christmas Performance ticket sales will go towards the children's Christmas gifts at the end of this term. All proceeds from the party tickets will go towards the children's Christmas party food. The proceeds from the children's handmade calendars and Christmas raffle tickets will go towards our current fundraising for **Sensory Resources and a Projector**. Many thanks, Penny

Diary dates

29/10/18 Term starts	1/12/18 Start of Advent
5/11/18 Bonfire night and fireworks	2/12/18 Start of Hannukah
6/11/18 Diwali (Deepavaali) - Hindu	12/12/18 Christmas Performance
10/11/18 World Science Day	14/12/18 Christmas Jumper Day
11/11/18 Armistice Day; Origami Day	14/12/18 Christmas Party
16/11/18 Children in Need	18/12/18 End of term
19/11/18 Road Safety Week	25/12/18 Christmas Day
22/11/18 Thanksgiving Day	3/1/19 Preschool re-opens
30/11/18 St. Andrew's Day	