



## Newsletter Autumn 2 2024

Welcome back, we hope you all had a good half term break.  
Our theme for this half term is **Space, Aliens and Astronauts!**

We will begin by talking about fireworks, the sounds and colours they make, as well as simple rules for safety. The children will create their own firework paintings.

We will continue to have a book of the week, encouraging the children to join in with repeated phrases. We will be reading the following stories:

- Aliens love underpants.
- Whatever next.
- The Way back home.
- Aliens love Panta Claus
- Father Christmas Needs a Wee

Activities for this half term include:

- Designing underpants, creating repeating patterns
- Role play – Alien café – counting pennies to buy items, writing orders
- Building rockets
- Naming 2d shapes, building with shapes, shape pictures

We will also be going on the following outings this half term:

- Welly walks to look for signs of Autumn
- Visiting North Baddesley library to choose books for Pre-school.
- Nativity Performance at North Baddesley Infant School (date to be confirmed).

We will also be focusing on self-care skills and encouraging independence. Please support this by helping your child to practice taking their coat off and putting it on by themselves. If your child brings a hat, scarf and gloves to Pre-school please put them in their book bag before coming in to make it easier for them to put their belongings away.

### Dates for your Diary

- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November – INSET day
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Nativity
- Christmas shop – Week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> December
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Party – Frankies Fun Factory

**Children in Need** The children can bring a small donation and wear spots or stripes! We will be going on a Pudsey and Peppa treasure hunt, learning Peppa's Piggie Wiggle song and making teddy crafts.

**Nativity** Our Nativity will take place on Friday 6th December in the morning, for our older children who start school next year. We will not be inviting parents to watch the performance; we will be filming it instead and this will be sent to parents. The children are very young, and we have found they enjoy singing and performing far more without being overwhelmed by an audience.

**Christmas Shopping!** Week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> December we will have a Christmas shop from 9.00am – 10.00am each morning where the children can bring £1 to pre-school in a purse and go shopping to purchase and wrap a present for a family member! Donations of small inexpensive gifts for the shop would be greatly appreciated.

**Christmas Party – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December** We will be having our Christmas Party at Frankies Fun Factory 10.00am – 12.00pm and all children are welcome to attend. Children need to be accompanied by a parent. (Letter with further details about the party and other Christmas events will follow.)

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December is the last day of term**

**Progress Updates** Staff will be completing RDS's (Record Development Summaries) and Two-Year checks this half term. These outline the progress your child has made and the next steps we are working on. Staff will arrange times with parents to share these as well as your child's Special Book.

**Stay and Play** We didn't have a stay and play last half term as new children were settling in and we look forward to inviting parents into Pre-school this half term. Week beginning 18th November you are invited to come into Pre-school with your child from 9.00 – 9.20, this is a lovely opportunity for them to show you the things they enjoy playing with.

**Is your child starting school in September 2025? Applications open on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 and the closing date is Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

## **Reminders**

**Coats** Please make sure your child's coat has a name in it! We have some coats that are the same or look similar.

**Snack and healthy lunch boxes** Children can bring fruit or a healthy snack to have mid- morning. This needs to be brought in a named bag or container so your child can put it in the snack tray.

**30 hours Funding** If you are eligible for 30 hours funding and your code is due for renewal, please ensure you renew it before the end of December.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff.

Thank you for your continued support.

Hollytree Staff