



SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to a new school year at Tiddlywinks and a warm welcome to all our new children and parents. We look forward to working with you all in the coming year. The children are already settling in well.

This half term we will be looking at nursery rhymes and learning about colours.

Unfortunately, we have already had a case of Nits at Tiddlywinks. Please do check your child's hair for evidence of nits and treat it accordingly. Please do not bring your child to Tiddlywinks if you know they are suffering from nits until you have treated it.

Keeping us up to date

In the interests of your child's wellbeing, please do remember to tell a member of staff on arrival if they are feeling very tired, have not slept well or have had a busy weekend or evening, as this can have a knock-on effect on their learning. You can also email us at officetiddlywinks@gmail.com from 8.00am, or call us on 07483 175232 from 8.30am.

Contacting us

Generally, we can only check the office email address up until 8.45am each morning before a session starts, and then generally not until a session has ended at 3.00pm. We may only occasionally have the opportunity to check emails over the lunch period, so if you need to contact us urgently, please call the Pre-School mobile number.

Any information you wish to share by email specifically about your child should be sent to officetiddlywinks@gmail.com

Our preferred method of communication is email so please do check your emails regularly, particularly in case any urgent or important information has been sent out. We appreciate that this may not suit everyone so if you would like a hard copy of all our communications, please let a member of staff know.

Outside Accidents

For safeguarding reasons, please let a member of staff know on arrival if your child has an accident at home or on the way to Pre-School. You will be asked to complete and sign an Outside Accident Form so we have a record of any pre-existing injuries, grazes, scrapes or bruises.

Collection of Children

Please wait at the bottom of the steps at collection time and wait for your child to be sent out to you.

Voucher Payments

We accept voucher payments and Tax Free childcare payments through the Government Scheme as means of payment for Pre-School fees. If you intend to pay via a voucher scheme, please set up your scheme in good time and ensure you allow sufficient time for the vouchers to clear in our account to avoid incurring a 10% late payment charge. Some voucher payments can take 3-5 days or longer to clear.

30-Hour Funding Eligibility Deadlines

Please remember that the three monthly deadlines for applying for 30 hours of funded childcare are as follows:

<u>Funding Period</u>	<u>Application must be made by:</u>	<u>For payment from:</u>
Autumn Term (Sept-Dec)	31 st August	1 st September
Spring Term (Jan – Mar)	31 st December	1 st January
Summer Term (April – Aug)	31 st March	1 st April

You can find a full step-by-step guide to the 30 hour extended entitlement at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>

Emergency Notifications WhatsApp Group

We have a WhatsApp group for sending out emergency notifications to parents, which we need your permission to add your number to. Parents new to the setting will be given form to complete confirming their permission to add their number. Please return your form to the Pre-School Manager.

School Admissions

If your child is due to start school in September 2025, please note that the deadline for applications is 15th January, 2025. Applications should be made online via the following web page: www.Cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions
Please do contact a member of staff if you need help or guidance with your application.

50 Things to do before you're 5

For a useful guide on 50 things to do and places to visit in Cambridgeshire before your child turns 5, please go to <https://cambspboro.50thingstodo.org>

Diary Dates

28th October – 1st November Half Term

Reminders

PLEASE remember to send your child in with a named waterproof coat/all-in-one waterproof, wellies and a hat/sun hat as the weather begins to change.

PLEASE remember to send in a full spare set of clothes (labelled) and a spare carrier bag in a named bag for your child to keep on their peg. Any wet/dirty/soiled clothes will be sent home in the carrier bag supplied.

PLEASE remember to contact us before 9.15am if your child is unwell and will not be attending their regular session. Please do not bring your child to Pre-School if they have a temperature, infection, diarrhoea or sickness. In the case of diarrhoea or sickness, they should not return to Pre-School until 48 hours after their last episode.

Find us on Facebook

Please do follow our page on Facebook. We use it to advertise events, share important information and request help. Simply search Tiddlywinks Pre-School and you will find the page easily.

Easy fundraising

Help Tiddlywinks raise valuable extra funds while you do your daily shopping, at no extra cost!

easyfundraising.org is the UK's biggest charity shopping site and is partnered with over 7,000 retailers and brands which donate part of what you spend to your chosen cause.

For those new to it, it couldn't be simpler. Simply visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> or load the App, select Tiddlywinks Pre-School, Stretham as your cause (from the Cause Directory) and carry on with your daily shopping. It's FREE to register and costs you nothing extra and Tiddlywinks receives a donation each time you shop.

