



St John's Pre-school Newsletter – November 2021

Hi All

We hope you've had a wonderful half-term break and enjoyed some pumpkin carving and autumn fun.

To those of you who joined us at the pre-school disco on Saturday 23rd, thank you so much. It was so lovely seeing all of your kids' smiling faces and little dance routines. We raised over £150 from this event which will go straight towards the essential running of the pre-school.

Term starts back on Monday 1st November, we can't wait to welcome the children and start some exciting activities in the lead up to Christmas (more on that below).

See you Monday!

October Highlights

We've had a busy month kick starting some of our annual activities.

Harvest Festival

Wow, what can we say! Thank you so much for your kind food donations. We were stunned to see so many food items which we provided to the Crowborough Food Bank to help those in need. The kids had such a wonderful time with Simon at our Harvest Service at the church.



Forest Walk

On 13th October we headed off on a bear hunt into the forest. The kids got a chance to explore nature, talk about the trees and bugs and enjoy a picnic nestled in nature. It was so lovely to see them all enjoying a new environment.

Bug Ball

We ended the term with our own little Bug Ball complete with fancy dress, face paints, crafting, games and lots of dancing. The children LOVED it!



Kids Disco (fundraiser)

Knowing how much the children love a good party we held our first “social” fundraiser since Covid hit. We had glitter tattoos, dressing up, a scribble station, spooky biscuit decorating and lots and lots of dancing and party games. We hope your kids slept well after this one 😊



Birthdays

A big happy birthday to Harlow and Bodhi who we helped celebrate turning 3 and 4.

November/December Plans

In November we'll be kick-starting our prep for Christmas with lots of singing to get the children comfortable with some super cute songs for our Nativity performance. We'll also be raiding the craft cupboards so the kids can start to design and make some wonderful Christmas cards and gifts.

A few upcoming dates for your diaries:

- **Parents Evening – Wednesday 24th November**
 - Sheets will be set-up outside of pre-school to sign up for a slot
- **Christmas Nativity – Date to be confirmed**



- Held at the Church, parents and carers welcome
- **Christmas Party – Friday 17th December**
 - Lots more to follow

We're also looking forward to singing a big happy birthday to Charlie who'll be turning 4 on 10th November.

Reminders from the Staff

Morning Drop-off

Thank you so much to those that completed our survey about the drop-off process. We have been opening the doors 5 minutes earlier and, so far, the feedback has been really positive. If you have any concerns or feedback on this process please can we ask that you feedback via email? We will be continuing to open our doors at 8.55am and we are looking at getting some canopy sails erected outside to help parents shelter from the rain in the winter weather. More to come on this....

Pumpkin Recycling

If you've carved a few pumpkins and are just about to throw the remains on the compost heap please consider taking them to the Ashdown Forest where the deer and animals will enjoy feasting on them. Your kiddies will love giving a little gift to the wildlife too.

Fundraising Update

We've got loads of great stuff on the horizon in November/December which we hope you will enjoy supporting;

Festive Family Photoshoot - Saturday 20th November (PM)

You may have noticed a booking form arriving home in your book bags for the festive photo shoot. If you're looking to get some professional shots of your family, perhaps as Xmas gifts, this is the perfect opportunity. For a very reasonable price of £30 (1 child +parents) or £40 (unlimited kids + parents) you'll have gallery of 10-15 professional photos and a choice of 2 x 8x6 physical prints to take home with you. You'll also have the option to purchase more prints on the day.

If you'd like to book a slot please **complete your booking form** and return to the staff in the kids bookbags **by Friday 5th November** and the fundraising team will be in touch with further details.

Photographer's portfolio: <https://www.madeleinenorphanphotography.co.uk/portraits> .



Adults Quiz Night – **POSTPONED**

We have decided, with the rising rates of Covid at the moment to postpone this event until early next year when we hope people will feel more comfortable and rates will have reduced. We'll keep you updated on this.

Bags 2 School – Friday 26th November, 9am

If you're having a clear-out, please consider donating any good quality clothing or household fabrics to our Bags 2 School collection raising money for the pre-school. Here's a list of items that are suitable for donation:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

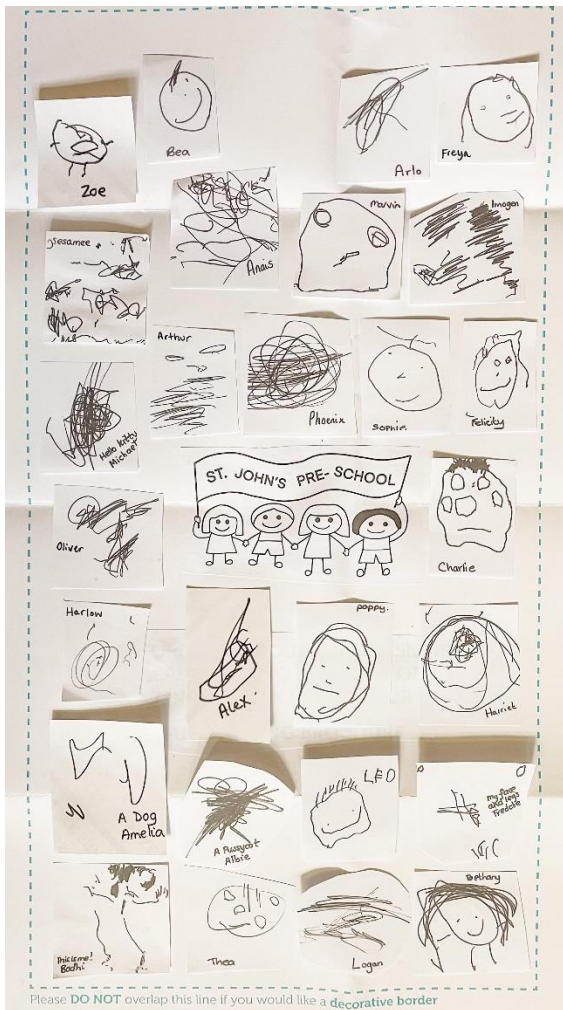
Please bag up your items in bin liners and drop outside the pre-school by 9am on the morning of collection (Friday 26th November).

Cake Sale – Tuesday 23rd November, 3pm

In line with the Bake Off final we'll be holding another of our yummy bake sales. Donations of bakes welcome. Please bring a couple of pounds to bag your bake and support the pre-school.

Tea Towel Gifts – order w/c 1st November

The kids have been busy channelling their inner artists, drawing their self-portraits (so cute!). We'll be getting these printed on tea towels which are perfect little Christmas gifts for the extended family. We'll be making to order so if you want one or more **please complete the booking form that will be coming home in book bags w/c 1st November**. Here's a little sneak peek of the mock-up (3 faces and designed text/borders missing, which are coming next week):



Christmas Raffle – December

The fundraising team have been busy collating a mega raffle for this year from restaurant vouchers to flowers to fine wines to hampers! So keep your eyes peeled for further details, you do not want to miss this!

As always, if you have any questions on the above, please feel free to contact us on email or phone.

The Pre-School Team

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