



Meet the team!



Miss Baker
(Nursery Teacher)



Miss Wicket



Mrs Birch
(Nursery Nurse)

Autumn Term

We have had a very busy couple of weeks settling into Pre-School. We have thought a lot about our Pre-School rules and have been learning how to work as a team. Our topic this half term is 'Festivals of light'.

Week 1	<p>Ideas: Bonfire night, Diwali, Winter, Ice exploration, Christmas</p> <p>(Planning will be based on the children's and parents input).</p>
Week 2	
Week 3	
Week 4	
Week 5	
Week 6	



How you can help

Can you help us at Pre-School?

Do you have any spare time that you can give to Pre-School? You do not have to commit to every week or even a whole session. Any spare time or skills that you could share with us will be of benefit to the children. We also go on a trip during the Summer term and would appreciate your support to ensure that we have a high ratio of adults to children. For the safety of all children, you will need to be police checked through Somers Park. A form is available in the office if you feel that you could support us with your help.

How you can help this term

Your support at home is vital to enable us to work together to develop the children's individual skills.

One of our main targets with the children this term is to develop their communication skills. To support us, please consistently ask your children a range of different questions and expect them to answer appropriately. This could be through reading a text or having a conversation during dinner.

'The art of communication is the language of leadership'.- James Hume

Story time- Sharing stories is vital to a child's early

1. **Start reading with your child as early as possible.** Get them used to the idea of looking at and listening to a book as soon as possible... this is essential in helping a child develop a life-long appreciation for reading.

2. Trace the lines with your finger as you're reading. With young children who are just learning to read, this helps them to follow along and associate the letters and words with the sounds they are hearing and the pictures they are seeing, encouraging them to learn to read themselves.

3. Use character voices or accents. Children love to hear the voices of individual characters come to life, and this can really help activate the story and characters for them and engage their imaginations.

4. Read with drama in your voice. Keeping your voice alive and interesting can make all the difference in terms of a child's concentration and ability to follow a story. Can your child think of a way to change their voice to become a character?

6. Stop from time to time to ask questions. Check in with your listeners about their thoughts and reactions to the story or pictures - *What can you see on the front cover? Where can we find out the name of the book? Do you know who wrote this book? What do you think is going to happen next? Do you see what I see?*

7. Follow your child's passions and interests - Does he or she love animals? Sports? Cooking? Dressing up? Nothing will teach children to love reading more than picking up on your enthusiasm for it and being able to share the joy. Be willing to read the same books a hundred times in a row, or to change character's genders or names, if that will engage your child more in the story.

8. It doesn't have to be books! If there's nothing else at hand or you're some place where you can't access a book, a magazine can make for fun reading as well. Find one that speaks to some area of interest - sports, animals, fashion - and see what stories you can find inside or even make up from the pictures. The important thing is to spend time sitting with children, turning pages and exploring and discovering together.

9. Talk about how to handle a book. All children need an opportunity to explore books and discuss how to handle them with care. Discuss the way that we hold a text and why we have to be careful when we are reading one. It is often interesting to start reading the book upside down to see if your child notices as this way they can learn the correct way to hold a book and they enjoy correcting you!



Keep In Touch



There is a notice board in the cloak room where you will find information on forthcoming events and dates. The school produces a fortnightly news letter which will be available to you along with any other relevant correspondence.

Each term we will be developing a nursery newsletter. This will be an opportunity for you to have an up to date insight of the activities and experiences that the Pre-School children have had. If you have internet access, we will be sharing this newsletter through the school website and via email. Please let us know if you need a copy printed out.

The school has a text service that operates daily. Please ensure that the office have your most up to date mobile number at all times. Texts will be sent out regularly about Pre-School and school events.

The school website has a lot of information about the school and regularly updates with copies of new letters that have been sent out. To access the website, please go to:

<http://www.somerspark.com/>

Finally, if you ever have any questions please feel free to come and talk to a member of staff. If you have something to discuss in depth, an appointment can be made for the end of the session.