

Newsletter March 2026

Keeping parents up to date

There is a weekly update on the primary school website,

<https://www.kingsburyepiscopiprimary.co.uk/pre-school-updates/>

Also follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/kingsburyepiscopipreschool>

Half term

We have been busy with various activities about animals, exploring spring, plants, sharing our favourite books and stories.

A favourite activity is construction, using Duplo, magnetic shapes, blocks, and best of all, big cardboard boxes! These activities are open ended, allow for imaginative play, persisting to connect pieces, start again if it all collapses, chose a purpose for their construction, how tall it will be, or long or just a chosen colour.

Most of the activities planned at preschool are a combination of play and exploration introducing skills - using pens, scissors; counting and calculating; stories and sounds in words for example that follow the children's preferred interests and inspire their learning of new interests. Even tidy up time is a learning opportunity, along with putting on their coats, following the routine of the session and eating lunch together.

Outside play

Spring may be on its way (we hope) and as ever the children are enthusiastic about going outside to play, explore and enjoy the space and natural world outside. Please make sure your child has a coat and or warm clothes to go out, if they want to bring wellington boots for outside play, they can, similarly if they wish to bring slippers for inside, they can do that also!

The importance of reading with your children

Sharing books and listening to stories are important parts of children's early development. One of the best reasons for doing this is that it is very enjoyable, children learn to associate books with pleasure and that it is well worth becoming a reader.

Sharing and looking at books means children learn how books work, that both print and pictures tell stories and give information, they learn about the world around them and become confident and careful when handling books.

When they listen to stories, children develop imagination and creativity, visual and language skills, memory and concentration, and social skills as they respond, join in with and talk about stories they know. Children are learning their letters when they notice letters in books and all around, and their curiosity about letters and words is growing every day. Looking at pictures in books is brilliant, children often tell their own story from the pictures. When

children want you to read the same book over and over again, you know they are falling in love with reading.

Language development

Not only will sharing stories improve language skills in young children learning new words, recognising rhythm, rhyme, alliteration, and letter sounds.

In daily interactions with your child, consider these steps to improve language development;

- Share attention - be at the child's level, pay close attention to what they are focused on.
- Respond - follow the child's lead, respond to their non-verbal and verbal communication, or comment on what they can see or hear or feel.
- Expand - repeat what your child says and build on it by adding more words to turn it into a sentence.
- Conversation - have extended back and forth interactions. Giving them time to listen, process what has been said and reply.

Internet safety – Strategies to help keep our children safe on the internet.

- Check apps, website and search results before using them with children
- Young children should always be supervised when accessing the internet
- Ensure safety modes and filters are applied - default settings tend not to ensure a high level of privacy or security

Resources for parents about internet safety

- NSPCC - Guidance for parents on keeping children safe online
- Parent Zone - digital parenting magazine
- Thinkuknow - guidance and information for parents/carers
- Internet matters - guidance for parents of preschoolers.

Diary dates

Last day of term - Wednesday 1st April

Return to preschool - Monday 20th April