Newsletter September 2026

Welcome to the autumn term at pre-school

We welcome new children and families to preschool and support them as they settle in, and welcome back children and families as they reacquaint themselves with preschool.

Just a couple of reminders!	
Belongings Please help us and your child look after their belongings by labelling everything; coats, lunch boxes, bags etc. We spend time outside everyday and so weather appropriate clothing and footwear for your child means they can play outside comfortably. Many children are developing self-care skills so easy fit clothes can be helpful as they learn to manage a trip to the toilet by themselves	**Snack fruit** Please provide portions of fruit that can be shared by the children at snack time. Snack time is a relaxed time when children chat together, chop up fruit, count pieces and use all their senses to enjoy their snack. Please do let us know of any allergies or dietary issues for your child.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

This is the framework within which pre-school supports the learning and development and welfare of each of the children who attend, further information about this framework is available in pre-school or you can access and other information about early education and childcare it via the Department of Education website https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6a5f8e4fb00f3323bf1a23a1/EYFS_group_and_school_based_from_September_2026.pdf

Partnership with parents is crucial in supporting children's development, we have a 'parents' week' when we sill share your child's folder with you and discuss their progress, we will organise these with you after the half term to find a convenient time to meet. We also value the information you provide about your child's experiences at home etc. particularly your child's successes – we love to share those proud moments! If you have any concerns about your child's development and experiences at pre-school please discuss them with us.

Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to think about problems, and relate to others. Learning and development is supported for the children in pre-school through planned and purposeful play in a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity. Planning for the sessions starts with the children; we observe them in the pre-school and look forward to hearing from you of their interests and favourite activities at home.

Preschool updates

Each week we publish updates on activities on the primary school website; here is the link https://www.kingsburyepiscopiprimary.co.uk/pre-school-updates/

Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School – Open Morning & Afternoon

We're excited to welcome prospective parents and children to explore our wonderful school ahead of admissions for September 2026.

📅 Open Morning: Friday 9th October - 9:30am-10.30am

📅 Open Afternoon: Friday 13th November - 1:30pm-2:30pm

Come and meet the dedicated staff, see the vibrant classrooms in action, and discover what makes Kingsbury Episcopi Primary such a special place to learn and grow.

Please call 01460 240507 or e-mail office@keps.school to register interest

See attached poster.

Helping young children learn skills for talking.

Going from babbling baby to talkative toddler seems like a miracle and your child needs YOU to help make this happen because they will learn most things from you. As they get older (age 2 to 4 years) they start to use longer sentences. They will learn and use lots of new words and will talk about what they have done. They will start to ask lots of questions and enjoy listening to what others are saying. They find some sounds difficult to say, but most adults will understand them. all these skills help children get ready for school. Remember though that learning to talk can be difficult! Some children find talking and listening harder than others. they might find it hard to understand what words and sentences mean. Some struggle to find the right words and sounds to use and put them in order and may need some extra help. Please speak to us at preschool, your GP or Health Visitor for further support.

Handy tips for talking!		
Get your child's attention. Say their name before you start speaking, face them and talk about things that are in front of you so they learn new words.	**Have fun!** Sing songs, make noises, use actions and funny faces! Just talk about what you are doing and what they are interested in.	**Comments not questions.** Asking lots of questions can feel a bit like a test! Making comments about what is happening is more natural.
Give time to think. Children need more time that adults to think about what they've heard and to decide what to say back.	Be aware of **background noises** and how to help your child focus on what you are saying. Dummies can get in the way of talking, try to keep them just for sleep times, and take them out to talk.	**Children often make mistakes.** Show them that you understand, rather than asking them to repeat words correctly. Say the word or sentence again correctly for your child. If they say, "look at the dod" you can say "yes, it's a dog".

Flu vaccine

As we approach winter it is important to remember that a nasal spray flu vaccine is free on the NHS for children aged 2 or 3 years from your GP surgery. For more information visit https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/

Starting school in September 2027.

The portal to apply for school places is open from 28th September 2026, see link below.

https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time/

applications must be submitted by 15th January 2027.

Diary dates	
Last day of term	Friday 23rd October
Monday 2nd November	Return to pre-school
Friday 18th December	Last day of autumn term.
Monday 4th January 2027	Return to preschool