

HARRIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

PRE-SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Week ending 31st January 2025

This week, we have been reading snippets of 'The Sound Collector Poem', which has helped us listen for environmental sounds and the children have been recreating them.

Chinese New Year Celebrations!

We have been celebrating Chinese New Year this week. We've shared some clips of Chinese New Year parades – the children loved watching the dragon dances! We have had a go at writing Chinese numbers in the sand and making lanterns. We found out that in Chinese culture, they believe the colour red is lucky so we made the lanterns out of red paper and decorated them with yellow paint stars. We used star cutters to print the shapes onto our lanterns first. Then, when it had dried, we folded the paper lengthways and cut very carefully across the fold. Next, we glued the edges together and also glued on a handle.

Next week, we will be looking at positional language, being safe indoors and outdoors and looking at farm animals.

Maternity Leave

We are excited to say that Mrs Livesey is expecting a baby in May! We are delighted to announce that Mrs Bilsbrough will be covering Pre-School when Mrs Livesey goes off on maternity leave. This will ensure a smooth transition for the children. An additional member of staff will also join us in Pre-School to further support your children. Mrs Bilsbrough will officially cover Pre-School from Tuesday 22nd April and Mrs Livesey's last day before her maternity leave begins will be Friday 2nd May.

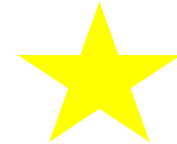
All About EYFS

We hope you enjoyed reading about the Characteristics of Effective Learning. This week, we have attached 'What happens early, matters for a lifetime'. Happy reading!

Have a lovely weekend!
The Pre-School Team 😊

Things to Remember:

- Please pre-order school lunches on School Grid if your child has hot dinners.
- Please **NAME all** uniform, including hats, gloves and scarves. Thank you.
- Please read this NHS guidance on toilet training for some helpful advice:
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/babys-development/potty-training-and-bedwetting/how-to-potty-train/>
- Parents Evening will take place at the end of March/beginning of April (dates TBC).



Star Award

Dexter

Our week in photos – check out our class gallery:

<https://www.harris.lancs.sch.uk/work/celebrating-chinese-new-year/95329>

What happens early, matters for a lifetime

- [Research](#) tells us that what happens at home makes the biggest difference to your child's early learning and development.
- Playing together, singing, enjoying books, visiting the library, painting, drawing and finding out through play about letters, numbers and shapes are important activities to do at home. These activities are learning opportunities.
- These learning activities will make a difference to your child's learning right up to secondary school.



What happens early, matters for a lifetime

Chat, Play, Read

Giving your child the best start in life.

- Children love to talk about all sorts of things. Make time to have back and forth conversations.
- Don't feel embarrassed talking to your baby – it's never too soon to start communicating with them!
- Go with what your child is interested in. This will help them learn lot of new words.



Chat

The benefits to your child learning more than one language are huge.

- Talk and play with your child in the language that you feel most comfortable and confident using.
- Sing, read and tell stories in your home language – rhyme and repetition help your child to remember words.
- Home languages give your child a connection to their culture and heritage. Encourage your child to use all their languages – they will feel closer to people and part of their community.



Play

- Play helps children learn about the world and themselves. Children need time and space to play freely. Sometimes it is helpful if you sensitively join in with your child's play, too.
- Children need outdoor play.
- Play is essential for your child's wellbeing and development. It is part of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989).
- There are many everyday moments like bath time and dinner that you can make playful. Help your child to learn in a fun and relaxed way.



Read

- Sharing books and telling stories is a lovely way to build closeness and encourage conversations.
- Sharing books with your child at a young age will help them to develop a love of reading.
- Read and share stories with your baby.
- Talk to your child about what is happening in the pictures.
- Young children love to hear and read their favourite books and stories again and again.

