Stratton Little Learners

(Registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

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November 2026 Newsletter



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This half term our focus for learning will be celebrations

We will firstly learn about the night sky, and light and dark. We will learn about the stars and moon and create craft to celebrate Diwali; the festival of light. We will make night sky craft using a range of mixed media.

Next week is national nursery rhyme week. The children will make different nursery rhyme craft each day. We will use the song bag, song dice and musical instruments. On Wednesday we will make Remembrance Day poppies and observe 1 min silence using the iPad to explain to

the children why. On Friday this week it is Children in Need. The children will take part in running games and decorate biscuits.

Next, in preparation for national cake week next week, we will learn how we can use fruit and vegetables in cakes. We will experiment with lots of different recipes. We will weight and measure ingredients and then use our physical skills for mixing and kneading.

Our Learning for each week will be uploaded to Famly, we will continue to have a number, sign and story of the week each week.

Our learning intentions for this half term

Personal, social and emotional development

· Develop friendships with other children

· Notices and asks questions about differences

· Develop their sense of responsibility and member of a community

· Increasingly follow rules and understand why they are important

· Shows more confidence in new social situations

Communication and Language

· Listen to simple stories and understand what is happening

· Use a wider range of vocabulary

· Learn new vocabulary

· Sing a large repertoire of songs

Understanding the world

· Makes connections between the features of their family and other families

· Develop positive attitudes and celebrate cultural, religious and community events and experiences

Mathematics

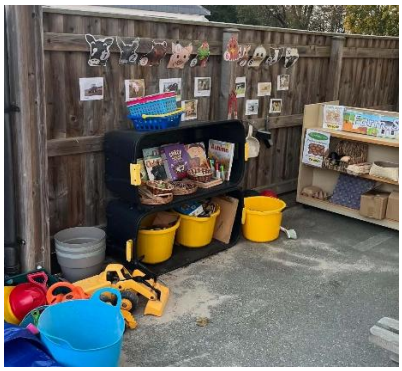
· Understands positions

· Says one number for each item

Our role play

Before half term we invited the children to vote for our next role play. The vote was between a transport centre or a farmer's yard/shop. The winner was a farmer's yard/shop (this will be outside). We will also have a gingerbread house role play inside.







Next up Gemma and Sam

Gemma



Roles and Responsibilities

Early Years Supervisor and deputy SENCO

How long have you worked at playgroup?

Since 2018, 8 years!

Qualifications

Level 3 Early Years qualification.

In final year of Open university degree in Early Childhood Studies

My favourite thing about working in early years

Being part of the children's little journeys and watching them grow in confidence, learn new things and develop their own little personalities. I love seeing the excitement on their faces when they achieve something for the first time, no matter how big or small. It's so rewarding knowing that I can make a difference in their lives by helping them feel safe, happy and confident in themselves. I love that every day is different and that I can help give children the best possible start in life.

How would you like to see preschool grow and develop?

I'd love for us to keep building on what we already do well, creating new experiences for the children and giving them lots of opportunities to explore, learn and develop at their own pace and making sure every child feels happy, included and supported. I'd also love for us to keep growing as a team, sharing ideas and learning from each other so we can give the children the best experiences possible. Most importantly, I want our preschool to be a place where children love coming each day, feel that they belong and can grow in confidence while having lots of fun along the way.

Sam



Roles and Responsibilities

Early Years Supervisor

How long have you worked at playgroup?

Since 2014, 12 years!

Qualifications

Level 3 Early Years qualification

My favourite thing about working in early years

Watching the children grow in independence and confidence whilst mastering new skills and developing new friendships.

How I'd like to see preschool grow?

By continuing to offer a variety of experiences and challenges whilst focusing on each child's individual interests.

A little bit more about Sam

I have four daughters and 8 grandchildren.

I love going on long walks with my two dogs, Lola and Loki. Also Spending time and making memories with my grandkids; and exploring different cities with my husband.

Outdoor developments.

Developing our outdoor space is something that we have been wanting to do for a long time. The work has finally begun. Our children from the academic year 2025-2026 raised £800 towards this, by being sponsored to do something of their choice.

The development will be a work-in-progress, and it will continue to grow and develop over time. We will be doing more fund raising in the future to help with this. We do hope the children enjoy what has been created so far.

A huge thank you to the team at **DT Construction** for the work carried out so far.



Children's Christmas designs.

Children will be coming home with their Christmas designs. You can purchase a range of items with their designs on them. The forms and payment must be returned by **Monday 16th November.**

Staff training

Our team are regularly attending and updating their training. Recent training attended includes.

Kelly and Anna, Ofsted updates

Anna attended a SENCO network meeting

Kelly completed online safety updates.

Kelly, Sam, Roxy and Tracy renewed their supporting children with behaviour training.

Tracy and Roxy renewed their Prevent and Safeguarding training.

Tracy completed her level two in Food safety.

Email change

We are still currently using the email address strattonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk

We will soon be changing to our new email addresses - we will let you know when we make this change.

Reminders

Fresh fruit/veg in lunch boxes/labelled water bottles

We ask the children to have at least one portion of fresh fruit/vegetables in their boxes.

Please can children come to their session with a labelled water bottle.

Library system

We have lots of children using our library system which means they are enjoying a range of books. Reading with your children is really important, so please do enjoy this with your children.

Secure fitting and right sized shoes, and appropriate clothing

During their time at preschool children spend a lot of time being active, running around dancing and climbing. Please ensure children wear shoes that fit well and have a secure back. This prevents children from having unnecessary accidents. Reminder to not send children in their favourite clothes. We do use washable pens and paints and encourage children to wear aprons, but they will most likely still get messy.

Headlice

Last half term we had some reported cases of headlice. It is important you check your child's hair regularly and treat appropriately if required.

Illness

Unfortunately, at this time of year particularly, there are lots of illness and viruses. Please only send your child to their sessions if they are well enough. If they need Calpol before their session (unless for specific reason e.g. they had had immunisations) they SHOULD NOT be attending.
If they have had sickness and or diarrhoea, they must not return until at least 48 hours after their last episode.
Please let us know if you child will not be attending and the reason why, though the app, email or phone. Thank you.

School applications

If your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023, you will need to apply for a school place for September 2024. **The deadline for applications is 15 January 2027.**
https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/

Term Dates

Individual photos Wednesday 4th November

Joining in with children and need (more details to follow) Friday 13th Nov 

Christmas card designs must be returned by Monday 16th November

Last Day before Christmas Break - Thursday 17th December

Christmas Party - Friday 18th December AM (more details to follow)

Christmas Break (closed) – 21st December – 4th January

Reopen after Christmas - Tuesday 5th January

Half term (closed) - 15th – 19th February

Easter Break (closed) - 26th March – 9th April

Reopen after Easter – Monday 12th April

Bank Holiday (closed) - Monday 3rd May

Insert day (closed) - Tuesday 4th May

Half term (closed) 31st May – 4th June

Last day before Summer Break – Tuesday 20th July

School Starters Party – Wednesday 21st July am (more details to follow)

Other dates throughout the year will come up such as celebrations and events days.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.



Kelly



Anna



Sam



Gemma



Roxy



Kay



Tracy



Edwina