

AUTUMN TERM

Holding Hands Preschool Fortnightly Newsletter Week Commencing Monday 20th October 2025

A look at the past couple of weeks!

Halloween decorations, autumn crafting and walks in nature!

Take a look below to find out what we have been up to...

Sensory Room

- Sensory Play
 - *Playdough – rolling, shaping, squeezing, printing and using cutters!
 - *Natural resources – exploring conkers, acorns, dry leaves, sticks and cones and using them in our witch's spells.
 - *Coloured rice – bright orange and black rice for some Halloween sensory fun.
- Art
 - *Crayon rubbing – using crayons to make transfers onto paper. Looking at leaf patterns.
 - *Clay – shaping and sculpting clay and using it to make spiders, hedgehogs and other creatures.

Outside

- Garden
 - *Sensory trays – sand and water play.
 - *Physical Exercise – hoops, balls, running, climbing and jumping.
- Bank
 - *Logs – Practising turn-taking, climbing and jumping from different heights.
 - *Pathways and long grasses – running, hiding, rolling and chatting with friends.
 - *Chickens – talking about, caring for and collecting eggs from.
 - *Frames, slides, pirate ship – climbing, trying out new ways to slide down, crawling through tunnels and practising safe skills.

Story Corner

- Our favourite action songs – 'Incey-Wincey Spider', 'Dingle-dangle scarecrow' and 'One finger, one thumb'.
- Our favourite books – 'Room on the Broom' and 'Spinderella' by Julia Donaldson.

Gym

- Free-play and construction – Stickle Bricks, Cars and Garage, musical instruments and singing, Wooden Blocks, Magnetic Shapes, Threading.
- Indoor apparatus – Climbing triangle, arch and frames. Stretching our physical capabilities.
- Interactive Board – Learning all about Diwali.

Kitchen

- Diwali celebrations – cooking traditional treats and making rangoli patterns

What's happening over the following weeks?

- The children will have a calmer week, filled with plenty of opportunities for outside play and nature walks, as we wind-down towards the half-term break.
- Outings to the library, market and Old Amersham High Street for small groups of children.
- Following on from discussions with the children, we will continue to look at Halloween and making our lovely autumnal and Halloween crafts which will either be sent home with the children or used for displays within the preschool.

Dates For Your Diary...

Friday 24th October 2025 –
Half Term

Preschool will close for the autumn break, at the end of the afterschool session, on this date.

Friday 24th October 2025 –
Halloween Trail from 3.30-
4.15pm

A small family-friendly event held towards the end of afternoon session on our last day before half-term. More details in the main email.

Monday 3rd November 2025 –
Parent Feedback

Parent feedback sessions will be offered via your child's key person. Please liaise to arrange directly. These can be held via video call, or face-to-face within the setting at a mutually convenient time.

Tuesday 4th November 2025
– Beginning of Autumn Term
(2nd half)

Pre-school will re-open on this date for the second half of the autumn term, with normal operational hours.

*Please always check subsequent newsletters for updates to our key dates!

**Keep reading
on the next
page...**



From Us to You...

Our chickens are still laying, despite the colder temperatures and there are currently plenty of eggs available in the cloakroom (above the lunchboxes). Our fresh eggs are sold at £3 per ½ dozen (6 eggs).

Any contributions for our fresh produce, including eggs, fruit and vegetables is greatly appreciated and encouraged. Your donations towards these foodstuffs help us to continue to provide food and bedding for our chickens, and compost, seeds and tools to continue in our green-fingered, growing efforts.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



Chicken Adoption

Chicken adoptions are now up and running again!

This is something we set up a long time ago and lots of families signed up with benefits such as ½ dozen eggs per half term and opportunities to visit your chicken.

Adoptions are £10 per year and the money raised through this scheme will help provide food and bedding for the chickens.

If you are interested and would like to find out more, please don't hesitate to speak to us in the cloakroom and we'll give you a form to complete.

An enormous well done to our wonderful Karen! You did it!!!

Karen has once again completed the Mud Pack Challenge to raise money for the Hospice of St. Francis (Berkhamsted). She tackled the 12km route...and every muddy obstacle she came across, including climbing through skips filled with ice-cold, muddy water, going under and over different levels, wriggling and crawling through the mud and scaling steep inclines.



she has already raised a brilliant amount, but for anyone who would still like to donate, the 'Just Giving' page will remain open. Follow the link to donate and a huge thanks to those who already have - it means the world to Karen.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/karen-hazell-1>

Thank you again for your generosity and kindness!



Holding Hands Preschool Halloween Trail

It's here! Our annual Halloween Trail has once again come around and you are all invited!

The trail will be held on our last day of term...Friday 24th October 2025 from 3.30-4.15pm.

All children who attend during this session will be involved, but we encourage parents to come along and join your child/ children to complete the trail.

Additionally, we welcome all our families who are not in attendance usually. Please come along on your child's afternoon off for a family-oriented Halloween activity to kick-start the half-term.

*The trail will be £3 per family and includes a trail clue sheet, access to the setting, refreshments and upon completion of the trail, a special prize to take home.

Socials

- Website

Please find the link to our Holding Hands Preschool website below. This will now be updated regularly and will be a great source of information and updates, such as newsletters and term dates. Make sure to take a look and tell us what you think.

[Home - Holding Hands Pre-School Ltd
\(\[holdinghandspreschool.co.uk\]\(http://holdinghandspreschool.co.uk\)\)](http://Home-HoldingHandsPre-SchoolLtd(holdinghandspreschool.co.uk))

- Facebook

Please find the link to our Holding Hands Preschool Facebook page below. This will now be updated regularly and will be a great source of information and updates. Make sure to review, like, follow and share!

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100091883683367>

- WhatsApp

Additionally, we have included the link to our parents WhatsApp group below. Created to share important information and updates, connect and give our families a community of like-minded friends!

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BGN06pO4FDD7aD6d88PcNZ>

It Takes a Village...

Have any topics you would like to hear about or would like support with. From lunch box ideas to healthy sleep guidelines, we're here to help. We want to include more of the information that you would like to read, so if you have a question or something you're finding tricky at home, please get in touch via

holdinghandspreschool.news@gmail.com and let us be your village!