

PARENT NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM



Paint Pots Spotlight - PPI & PP7

Congratulations to PPI and PP7 who both had Ofsted inspections in July. We are so proud of both teams who showed the inspectors just what it is like to be a child at Paint Pots, where, **Love, Laughter and Learning** shines through every day. Both inspectors spent time with the staff and children, questioning and observing their activities and knowledge. Read their inspection reports on our website.

www.paintpotsnursery.co.uk/locations

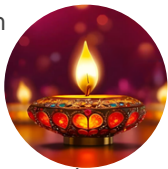
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

October Half Term Dates -
27-31 Oct (Term Time Only)

Black History Month (Oct)

Guy Fawkes - November 05th.

Diwali - Diwali is a five-day celebration observed in the Hindu lunisolar months of Ashvin and Kartika... Diwali will be celebrated on Monday, October 20th.



Remembrance - 11th November

Hanukka - begins at sundown on Sunday, December 14th, continues through Monday, December 22nd.

Kwanzaa - celebrated/ observed on Friday, December 26th. Kwanzaa celebrates African culture and traditions.

Christmas closures - Preschools
16th Dec - 05th Jan 26

Nurseries 25th Dec - 01st Jan 26

All Settings closed - Group Training Day - Wednesday July 08th 2026

New Term, New Start.

September, and the start of a new term. A warm welcome to all our new children and families, we hope that you settle well. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to speak to your setting manager who will be more than happy to help.

Don't forget to sign up to the Family app if you are a new parent or keep sharing photos and information for the team to see what you've been up to over the summer.

We will continue to share information with you, via Family or newsletters but if there are any subjects you would like to know more about, please let us know and we will make sure we include them in future editions.



We have included a few important subjects in this terms newsletter and hope that you find them helpful.

Please read the section on Positive Energy on page 2. Anyone can sign up for the PSR who is either pregnant and or has a child under 5 and can get priority support during an emergency, a free monitor/alarm, and free annual gas check (normally £60+). The safe link is on page 2 to register.

Here is a link to CBeebies parenting with guidance, advice and ideas. Learn new things, learn about your child's development or find a story, activity or nursery rhyme.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/parenting>
We hope you enjoy reading but feedback is always welcomed.



Attendance and Absence.

Attendance at nursery and preschool is an important part of safeguarding, child welfare, and establishing good lifelong habits. Regular attendance supports children's learning and progress, while monitoring helps identify any concerns.

Regular nursery attendance is important for children's progress and wellbeing, and helps to build positive habits for later life.

We record attendance daily using the Family App. If your child is absent, please let us know the reason. If we don't hear from you, we will contact you the same day and, if needed, follow up with your emergency contacts.

If a child has frequent or unexplained absences, we may review this with you. Where there are concerns for a child's safety or wellbeing, our safeguarding procedures will be followed.

For detailed information on the Absence Policy, see the parent noticeboard.

Important Information Help with Utilities.



Positive Energy – A Safer, Healthier Home

All families with children under 5 are eligible to go on the Priority Services Register. This gives you priority help if there is a problem with your gas, electricity or water supply. You can also get a free carbon monoxide alarm – a continuous safety check for those with gas boilers. [Find out more and register here:](#)

bit.ly/positiveenergyforms



Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival is usually celebrated at the end of September/beginning of October around the time that farmers bring in the harvest. We give thanks for the harvest itself and all those who work so hard to produce it. In a global world where almost anything can be sourced at any time of year, it is easy to become detached from the seasons and Harvest reminds us that most things only grow at certain times of year, and there is a natural moment when they are ripe.

Look out for all the different activities in the nurseries and any collections for local food banks.

"The early years are the foundation for a child's future learning, health and wellbeing.

What happens in these years shapes who they become." UNICEF

Preparing Food Safely



Find out how to prepare and serve food safely for babies and young children by visiting the NHS link below – including fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, cheese, nuts and other snacks – to reduce the chances of choking.

<https://www.nhs.uk/start-for-life/baby/weaning/safe-weaning/preparing-food-safely/>

What do you know about Paint Pots?

Paint Pots was originally founded by David and Anna Wright in 1993 from a nursery in their house to a family of 9 preschools and nursery's. Their love, energy and commitment to early years over the decades is legendary and although they are now retired, remain passionately involved and committed to early years and work as our Paint Pots Ambassadors.

Our nursery in Waterloo was the first and as the group started to grow, staff worked continuously to ensure each one of our settings, nursery, preschool or after-school provision, retained the homely, caring atmosphere that we believe is the essence of our motto: 'Love, Laughter and Learning'.

In 2022, David and Anna handed over the reins to Launchpad Social Enterprise (LSE), which owned three pre-schools in Hampshire, and which shared a similar set of values.

We now have a total of 13 settings with most in the City of Southampton with some based in different areas around Hampshire.

We are also proud to say that in October 2024, Paint Pots became a charity. In many ways, everything continues as before, although charitable status brings some advantages, giving us the ability to improve our environments and to look at projects in different ways to support our families and communities. We will always be a family orientated organisation devoted to early years, and our priority is to do what is best for children, in a loving caring environment, in which they can love, laugh and learn.

Paint Pots has always been a values-led organisation, with its staff and children at the centre of everything we do.



Importance of Parent Partnerships.

Working in partnership with parents is so important to us. By sharing ideas and knowledge, we can support your child's learning, well-being, and development together. You know your child best, and when we combine your insights with our daily practice, we can create meaningful experiences that nurture their interests, build confidence, and inspire a lifelong love of learning.

Here are some key reasons why these relationships are so important:

Social and Emotional Development:

Early relationships shape a child's perceptions of themselves and others, influencing their social and emotional development.

Emotional Regulation: Helps children learn to regulate their emotions and control their impulses, which is essential for settling and learning.

Parental Influence: The quality of the home learning environment has a stronger effect on children's intellectual and social development than any other factor.

Child Safety and Well-being: Positive relationships with parents ensure children's safety and emotional well-being, paving the way for difficult or sensitive conversations.

Holistic Development: Strong relationships between parents and educators support children's emotional and social development, helping them to become happy, healthy, kind, respectful, and courteous adults.

Building strong relationships with each other is essential for the educational, social, and emotional development of the children, providing a co-caring relationship that bridges the gap between home and us as the educational setting.

“The little moments we share today become the big memories our children carry tomorrow.”



Settling in at Paint Pots.

We understand that starting nursery is a big step, for both you and your child! That's why we take great care to make the settling in process as gentle and supportive as possible. We believe that every child is unique, and we will work closely with you to ensure the transition feels calm, safe, and positive for everyone.

During the first few weeks, you might notice a mix of emotions, excitement, curiosity, or even a few tears and that is perfectly normal. Our staff are here to comfort, encourage, and build trust with your child at their own pace. Through consistent routines, familiar faces, and lots of play, children begin to feel confident and secure in their new environment.

We value your role as the expert on your child and welcome open communication. Whether it's a quick chat at drop-off, an update via our Family app, or a planned meeting, we're here to support you throughout this journey. Together, we will help your little one thrive as they settle into nursery life.

As your child begins their journey with us, we want to make sure you feel connected and informed every step of the way. That's why we use the Family app, a secure and easy-to-use platform where you can get real time updates about your child's day through observations and photos.

Family gives you a window into their world at nursery. You can also use it to send messages to the team, notify us of absences, and access important information like invoices and upcoming events. During the settling in period, it's an additional reassurance to see how your child is getting on and to stay in close contact with us.

If you haven't already, you will soon receive an email invitation to set up your Family account. Once registered, you can download the app from the App Store or Google Play. If you need any help getting started, please don't hesitate to ask a member of the team or your nursery manager, we are more than happy to help!

