



Nov - Dec 2024

# Newsletter

Hello  
Autumn

## Our latest newsletter

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn/Winter term. We are so pleased that all our children have settled really well into both Playgroup and our new setting for Preschool at St Luke's Hall - we had a wonderful first half term of the year! With the colder weather now here, please remember to pack warm clothing and wellies so we can still spend some time outdoors in the fresh air. We'd just like to remind parents to name all clothing and footwear so we can ensure all items go home with the correct children each day. We are looking forward to the run up to Christmas with lots of festive activities planned!

We really appreciate any fruit donations for the children's snack time at both settings. Thank you to anyone who has already donated, we are very grateful!



## Free childcare hours

Please remember to reconfirm your eligibility for free childcare hours every three months, to ensure your childcare code remains valid.

For working parents currently claiming 15 hours free childcare support for 2 year olds, if your child turns 3 between 1 September and 31 December 2024, you may be eligible for **30 hours free childcare** from January 2025. As long as you continue to reconfirm your details every three months and you remain eligible, your entitlement will increase to 30 hours (your childcare code will remain the same). If you plan to claim 30 hours from January you will just need to complete another declaration form - please ask for this from your setting.

## Starting school in September 2025? Here's how to apply

If your child is 4 or will turn 4 before 1 September 2025, they can start school in September 2025. **Applications OPEN for Hampshire residents on 1 November 2024 and CLOSE on Wednesday 15 January 2025.** For more information visit [www.hants.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions)

## Dates for the diary

N  
O  
V

Fri  
1

School applications OPEN

Mon  
4

First day back after half term holiday

Sat  
16

Family photoshoot

Timeslot sheets available outside both settings - please book your slot.

D  
E  
C

Thurs  
12

Beech Tree Care Home  
Christmas Sing-a-long  
Preschool Children

Mon  
16

Preschool Sing-a-long  
St Luke's Hall 2-3pm

Fri  
20

Last day of term & Christmas parties  
9am-12noon

Mon  
23

First day of Christmas holidays  
Christmas holidays 23rd Dec - 3rd Jan

J  
A  
N

Mon  
6

First day of new term

Wed  
15

School applications CLOSE

Mon  
27

INSET DAY

Remember your child's flu vaccine, which will be available at your GP surgery. Look out for a message from your surgery to book your appointment.



Playgroup: 01256 770370



Pre-school: 07718 424723



[www.overtonplaygroup.com](http://www.overtonplaygroup.com)



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# Autumn term at Preschool Playgroup

We had a wonderful first half of the term with the children taking part in all sorts of autumnal activities and crafts.

Here are some of the things we have been doing!

Playgroup



Preschool



## Did you see us in the news?



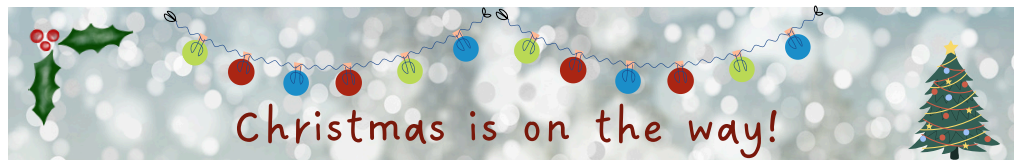
We were so excited to be featured in the [Basingstoke Gazette](#), with an article all about our Preschool's move to St Luke's Hall. We are so happy in our new setting and, more importantly, the children seem to be enjoying the new space.

If you didn't see the article, you can take a look [here](#).

## Have you also seen our revamped Facebook page?



If you haven't already, please search [@overtonpreschoolplaygroup](#) and join the [Facebook group](#) to have access to our latest news and see what our children have been up to.



We have a few things planned at Overton Preschool Playgroup in the run up to Christmas, so keep these dates in mind:

### Saturday 16 November - Family photoshoot opportunity

This will take place in the community centre between 9am and 1pm. You can book one slot per family with a maximum of eight people. There is no obligation to buy at all, but these photos make a perfect gift idea and will be ready in time for Christmas! The booking sheets are available at both Playgroup and Preschool. You will be able to select your preferred time on a first come first served basis; this has been very popular in previous years so don't miss out.

### Thursday 12 December - Beech Tree Care Home Christmas Sing-a-long

Every year our Preschool children sing Christmas songs to the lovely residents, we are looking forward to doing this again this year. Christmas outfits are encouraged!

### Monday 16 December - Preschool Sing-a-long at St Luke's Hall

All Preschool children will be invited to join us 2-3pm along with their parents, carers, siblings & grandparents for Christmas songs, drinks and mince pies. More details on this to follow so look out for those, but please save the date.

### Friday 20 December - Christmas parties!

On the last day of term we will be having Christmas parties at both of our settings. **All children** are invited, even if they don't usually attend on this day. The parties will take place between 9am and 12pm, there will be no afternoon session on this day at either setting. There will be food and entertainment to enjoy!

Lastly, our Christmas cards, mugs and other items are on the way to the printers. As ever, thank you for supporting this fundraiser. The children had a great time producing these, we hope you enjoy them too!

## Keeping in touch



Join the Facebook group [here](#)  
Search [@overtonpreschoolplaygroup](#)



Visit our website for more information about our settings:  
[www.overtonplaygroup.com](http://www.overtonplaygroup.com)



Chat to other parents using the WhatsApp groups. To join, email:  
[committee@overtonplaygroup.com](mailto:committee@overtonplaygroup.com)



Please check your emails for the most up to date information.

Advance notice of **INSET DAY** on **Monday 27 January**.

Both settings will be closed for staff training.