

Nelmes Pre-School Newsletter

Date: Summer Term 2025

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Members of Staff

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Sian Briton-Watkins, DM & SendCo
Liz Miller, Practitioner
Joanne Lambert, Practitioner
Sophie O'Reilly, Housekeeper
Kelly Spindler, Admin Assistant
Aysen Turan, Practitioner
Gemma Fisher, Practitioner

Back to School

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and I would like to thank you for attending and supporting our Easter Concert. The children, as always, surpassed all my expectations and were totally amazing! I never ever thought the children would be able to learn the words to 'How Far I'll Go'. We would really love to hear your feedback regarding our concert and would much appreciate your comments being posted onto our website. nelmespreschool.co.uk/comments.

Session Times

All Day - 9am – 3pm
Morning - 9am – 12 Noon
Afternoon - 12 Noon – 3pm
Collection should be prompt.

Staff members need to be aware if someone unfamiliar to them is collecting your child for safety reasons.

Summer Term Dates 2025

Term Starts Wednesday 23 April
Term Ends Wednesday 16 July
H/T Mon 26 May to Fri 30 May inc.
Bank Holiday Closure: Mon 5 May

Autumn Term Dates 2025

Term Starts Thursday 4 September
Term Ends Wednesday 10 December
H/T Mon 27 October to Fri 21 October

Back to school

Thursday 4 September

Themes for Summer Term 2025

The themes we shall be covering in setting this Summer half term are:

Weeks 1 & 2	Parts of a Flower
Weeks 3 & 4	Butterfly's Life Cycle
Week 5	Mini Beasts
Weeks 6 & 7	Father's Day Cards
Weeks 8 & 9	Under the Sea
Week 10 & 11	Cooking
Week 12	Free

You can help your children at home by discussing the above topics with them.

For those children that are starting mainstream school in 2025 we will continue with their more focussed and individual teaching in areas of literacy and mathematics. However, if parents wish to support children in this area at home could I please ask that you teach phonic sounds correctly. The Youtube link below is a few minutes long, if you could please watch it yourselves to familiarise yourselves. It is very different to how many of us were taught in school.

Sounds of the English Phonic Code – Synthetic Phonics.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IwJx1NSineE>

Changing Weather and Children's Bags

As the weather changes, please apply sun cream before the session and please bring a sun hat. Please ensure that all clothing, bags, lunch boxes and bottles are named. In the summer we regularly have water play so **all children** need a change of clothes available.

Also if your child is in nappies that they have plenty supplied in their bags complete with wipes, **nappy sacks and disposable gloves (essential)**.

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Admission to School 2025

If you have not done so already, could you advise me as soon as possible of your child's on-going school please.

School Photographer

The photographer will be visiting the setting on Tuesday 3rd June. All children who attend setting are able to have their photograph taken on this day. However, I would ask that if Tuesday is not your child's usual day of attending if you are able to bring your child into setting between 9.00 - 10.00am please.

Unfortunately, we WILL NOT be photographing children with their siblings on this occasion. Graduation photos will be taken on Tuesday 10th June and details will follow separately.

Forthcoming Events

Photographer - Tuesday 3rd June (Open to all children).

Graduation Photos - Tuesday 10th June (School leavers for Reception year only)

Wednesday 17 July - Last day of normal sessions

Thursday 17 July at 10.00am - Sports Day - all children and parent/carer(s) to attend

Friday 18 July at 10.00am - Leavers Party for School Leavers ONLY

Friday 18 July at 11.15am - Graduation Ceremony - Parent/carer(s) to attend

Child Illness

I hope that over the holidays and with having a break from school that any children repeatedly suffering from coughs and colds have managed to shift them and are feeling better. As these kind of illnesses spread around pre-school so quickly, to children and the staff, could I please ask that you DO NOT send children into school whilst they are unwell. Should your child seem unwell in setting you will be called and asked to collect them and take them home until they are better.

Could I also remind parents that if your child is sick or suffering from diarrhoea that you refrain from sending them to school. **Our policy states that children should not return to school for at least 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.**

Child Absence from School

The Local Authority insist that we are made aware of any child absence from Pre-School. Therefore could I ask that you please email or call the setting to let us know if your child is going to be absent from school. It is very time consuming and takes us out of the room when we have to make daily phone calls to parents which is not ideal.

Also any holiday dates should be advised to us. We have been told that if we cannot reach a parent regarding absentees, we will have to work our way down the emergency contact list until we get an answer. If that fails we are obliged to inform the police.

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Setting Information

Could I please advise all parents that we do have a setting website which contains all the information you could possibly need during your child's time at Pre-School, including term time dates and forthcoming events, uniform requirements etc. I would be grateful if you could check out the website for information prior to texting or emailing me, especially out of school hours.

nelmespreschool.co.uk .

Personal Belongings and Lunch Boxes

Please could you ensure that your child's personal belongings such as clothing, toys, comforters, lunch boxes and drink bottles are **clearly named on the outside**. Lunch box contents should remain healthy and sensible and could I ask that you refrain from providing your child with fizzy drinks, or foods containing nuts i.e.: satay chicken or peanut butter. Any grapes in lunch boxes should be cut in half length ways. Also to help your children a little could you please partly open any difficult packaging such as cheese strings, cake bars or crisp for them and possibly peel any fruit such as satsuma's and wrap in a piece of kitchen roll.

Your child will need a water bottle (with water only) to drink throughout the day. This should be brought into school with them and should be clearly named.

Children should bring a packed lunch if they are staying for an all-day or afternoon session.

Toilet Training

If your child is currently toilet training would you please let us know in order that we can ensure your child is taken to the toilet more frequently. If your child is currently wearing nappies could they please attend school in a 'clean and dry' nappy. Please ensure that you provide nappies, wipes and nappy sacks for every session.

Nelmes Face Book Page

We do have a setting Facebook page and all parents are encouraged to join this page in order to keep abreast of what is going on in setting. Sian may also upload photos onto this page of the activities that are available for the children which will give parents an insight into what kind of activities the children have access to. Just search on Facebook 'Nelmes Pre School Mums'.

Uniform

Please note that we have a uniform in place at Nelmes Pre-School which all children should adhere to.

Funding Options

There are many differing funding options available to parents. If I could suggest you familiarise yourselves with these options by logging into the 'Childcare Choices' government website or using the link via our setting website nelmespreschool.co.uk.

If you are thinking of taking up the option of Working Families Funding you **MUST APPLY FOR FUNDING YOURSELF**. Once you have a reference number you must send it to me for verification via the Local Authority as soon as possible along with the main applicants date of birth and national insurance number.

I would advise you not to delay on this. If I do not have a valid reference number you will be charged for your child's place at £23.00 per session.

Working Families Funding

Could I please, at this time, remind parents to think about renewing their codes for the Autumn Term 2025. This must be done before the end of July 2025 and I would advise parents not to leave this until the last minute.

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When to apply for Working Families Funding. Applications for funding must be made online at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

When your child turns 2	When they can get funded hours from	Recommended time to apply
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January	15 October to 15 November
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	15 January to 13 February
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	15 June to 15 July

You can apply outside of these recommended dates but you might not receive your code in time. You must have a valid code by the end of the month before a new term starts.

Birthday Sweets

Many children and parents like to bring sweets into setting to celebrate children's birthday's. Whilst we do not oppose this we would be very grateful if the sweets you bring in could be chocolate based. Sweets must **NOT** contain nuts and **Haribo's or sweets containing gelatine are not permitted**. This forms part of our setting policy and can be reviewed in our Policies and Procedures which are available on our website.

Accidents in Pre-School

As much as possible I would like to reassure parents that we do our utmost to prevent children hurting themselves or being hurt by other children within the setting. However, we cannot stop every accident or incident from occurring and we cannot stop a child tripping over or falling off of play equipment or indeed one child hurting another.

Should your child incur an injury in setting that we see or are made aware of the incident by a child, it will be recorded and advised to you either, at the current time by telephone if a bad head injury, by email or by a member of staff at the end of the session.

Kind regards, Cheryl

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