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****Newsletter No 3 – 18th December 2025****

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Welcome to our third newsletter of the year. Firstly, I would like to offer heartfelt congratulations to all the children for their outstanding efforts in our recent Nativity play. I am sure everyone will agree that the children were truly amazing in their performances. It was wonderful to see such a large audience present to share in this special occasion, making it a memorable and joyful event for all involved.



Thank You

On behalf of all the teachers at Ide Hill Pre-School, we would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to every one of you for the wonderful Christmas gift vouchers we received. Your kindness and generosity are truly appreciated,



and your thoughtful presents mean a great deal to us all. Thank you for making us feel so valued and for your continued support throughout the year.



Christmas Photo Shoot Fundraiser

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Kayleigh, Frida's mummy, for her remarkable fundraising efforts. Kayleigh generously organised and provided a truly beautiful Christmas photo shoot for our pre-school community. The event was not only a wonderful opportunity for families to create lasting festive memories, but it also served as a valuable fundraiser for our setting.

We are especially grateful as all profits from the photo shoot were kindly donated to the pre-school. This generous contribution will make a real difference, and we deeply appreciate Kayleigh's support and dedication. Thank you once again for helping to strengthen our community and for your continued generosity.





Fundraising

Following our recent letter outlining the financial challenges facing the preschool, we have been overwhelmed by the generosity and encouragement shown by our community. Your response has been truly outstanding and has reinforced the strength of support that surrounds our children and staff.

This term, Camilla and the committee have worked tirelessly to raise money for our preschool. In addition to organising successful fundraising events, Camilla has secured a generous grant of **£500 from the village shop**. This vital contribution, alongside your continued involvement, is helping us to meet immediate challenges and plan with confidence for the months ahead.

We are deeply grateful for the commitment, creativity, and hard work of everyone involved. Together, we are ensuring that Ide Hill Preschool remains a nurturing, safe, and inspiring environment for all children.

The amount raised this term is a staggering £2393

Thank you once again for standing with us. Your support makes a real difference.

Belonging Tree and Street Scene Photos

We are creating a street scene for the children to play with featuring their own houses and a 'Belonging Tree' with children's family photos. Playing with pictures of their own houses in a street scene helps children feel a strong sense of belonging and pride, while also sparking conversations about family and community. It supports language development as they share stories, builds understanding of the world by showing how homes fit into neighbourhoods, and encourages creativity through imaginative play. Children also explore maths ideas like counting and position as they arrange the houses. This simple activity links beautifully to EYFS goals, making learning meaningful and personal.



Additionally, we love celebrating the special people in each child's life, and displaying family photos in preschool helps children feel safe, valued, and connected. Seeing familiar faces on the 'Belonging Tree' gives children a sense of belonging and comfort, while also sparking conversations and friendships as they share stories about their families. It's a wonderful way to strengthen the link between home and preschool, and to celebrate the diversity of our community together.

Thank you to everyone who has already sent in their photos for our new exciting projects – if you haven't sent in your pictures, please feel free to post them on Tapestry so we can print them for the new term.



● Climate Champion ●

Ide Hill Preschool is proud to be part of the EYFS Climate Champion initiative. This is a national step for all early years settings, and it means we are showing children how to care for the planet in simple, everyday ways. Our designated Climate Champion is Mrs Marro.

Our climate action plan is practical and fun—things like reducing waste, saving energy in our hall, and spending more time outdoors exploring nature. Children will join in through age-appropriate activities that make looking after the environment exciting and meaningful.

By becoming Climate Champions, we're not only meeting new EYFS requirements but also helping children, families, and staff feel proud of the small changes we make together. Thank you for supporting us on this journey—together we're raising the next generation of eco-heroes.



ICAN Talk Boost Sessions

We're excited to let you know that Ide Hill Preschool will be running ICAN Talk Boost sessions this term. Talk Boost is a fun, small-group programme that helps children develop their speech, language, and communication skills. It has already been a success in our setting previously, with children making real progress in confidence, listening, and joining in with conversations. By offering Talk Boost again, we're giving children the chance to strengthen these vital skills early on, helping them feel ready for school and future learning. We will be posting regular updates on Tapestry of our Talk Boost sessions. If you would like more information please talk to Mrs Ferguson or Mrs Williams, who will be able to answer any questions.

Early Drop off Reminder

We would like to remind you that there is an option of an early drop off time of 08:45am

For those parents who wish to drop their children off at 08.45 we will need to make a small charge to cover the additional staffing costs for this time. For you to drop your child/ren off at 08.45 instead of 09.00 the charge will be £5.00.

This will be in addition to our normal session fees. For those parents who haven't already done so, please speak with Mrs Ferguson if you would like to swap to this time for the whole term.

Term 3: Monday 5th January 2026 – Friday 13th February 2026

Term 4: Monday 23rd February 2026 – Friday 27th March 2026



Please note that there is no Forest School this term. Forest School Sessions will resume after the half term break.

On behalf of all the staff at Ide Hill Preschool, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



See you all in 2026

