

Virtual Handsworth Pre-School: Weekly Bulletin



This bulletin has been prepared by: Louise

My favourite thing about Autumn is: Collecting Conkers and crunching leaves

Pre-School Leader's News:

Welcome to the first Virtual Pre-School Bulletin of this academic year. Feedback from parents last year suggested that the bulletins we created over lockdown and ongoing to the end of the summer term were well received and popular. We decided, therefore, to continue with the bulletins this year, offering one per Pre-School holiday time. This is our Autumn Half Term Bulletin and Louise has found lots of interesting things to do.

If you are still looking for inspiration – or plan to go out and about into the local woods or forests - you can also check out The Woodland Trust. They provide some ideas and activities for young children on their website: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/things-to-do/children-and-families>. As the nights draw in, it's also a good time to do some star-gazing. It is surprising what you can see if you look up, or if you use binoculars, when the sky is clear. There's information about star gazing with children on the CBeebies website: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/stargazing>. If you're up for a night-time walk, or live near the forest/trees, you may also be lucky enough to spot some bats or hear an owl. It's international bat week, 24th-31st October, and more information can be found here: <https://batweek.org>. And of course, the BBC's Autumn Watch begins on 27th October, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/curation/autumnwatch-on-cbeebies>. I am sure many of you will also enjoy our very own local Halloween window walk.

Your child will have come home from Pre-School with an Autumn bag. You can use these bags to collect autumn treasures, or to store any art or other activities your child does over the holidays – and Louise has provided some suggestions below. Please bring the bag back to Pre-School in the week after half term. We look forward to talking to the children about what is in their bag.

If you are celebrating Al-Mawlid Al Nabawi, over the half term break, we send you warm wishes for a joyful family time together.

Pre-School returns **at 9.00am on Tuesday 3rd November**. We have a staff INSET day on the Monday.) We look forward to seeing you then. *Janet*

Activities:

Autumn is one of my favourite seasons because there are lots of changes going on and lots of exciting things we can do.

If you have managed to collect some leaves you can use them to make a leaf Hedgehog like this one. You could also use some leaves to make a leaf family using different sized leaves to represent members of your family.



Have a think about what colours you think of when we say Autumn? Could you create a lovely picture using the colours? You may want to make an Autumn placemat. If you do not have any autumn coloured paper at home perhaps you could find some paper that make you think of different seasons? <https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/autumn-placemat>

Some of you may also be celebrating Halloween this week. I like this idea of using apples to make a Pumpkin picture. <https://nurturestore.co.uk/apple-printing-pumpkins>

We had lots of fun making spiders webs in our Garden. Perhaps you could make one in your outside space or you could maybe make one in your window. I also like this idea for an Autumn window display <https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/autumn-window-pictures>

Play and Exploring Ideas:

This week at Pre-School we made our own Autumn bags, for the children to collect some Autumn Treasure. What Autumn things can you collect in them? Have a look around your local area and see what changes you can spot. Do the trees near you look different? How has the weather changed recently?

If you have managed to collect conkers, then perhaps you could make some conker soup? At Pre-School we had a great time stirring and mixing the conkers. Perhaps your grown up might have a big bowl you can mix a special Autumn potion in.

I love what these people have done, making a zoo out of the conkers and acorns they have collected:

<https://multiculturalkidblogs.com/2014/10/17/chestnut-zoo-fall-crafts-with-kids/>

How about going on an Autumn hunt?

Autumn Hunt Checklist:

Can you (or your grown up find) a:

Conker
Chestnut
Squirrel
Brown Leaf
Yellow Leaf
Orange Leaf
Fungi
Bare tree
Berries
Pine cone

Remember to follow your grown up's instructions when looking for items in nature. You can always take a photo or draw a picture if your grown up doesn't want you to touch.

Exploring Number and Shape:

Here are some resources you might like to use:

https://content.twinkl.co.uk/resource/6c/5f/t-t-2140-my-counting-activity-sheet-autumn_ver_1.pdf?_token__=exp=1602954100~acl=/resource/6c/5f/t-t-2140-my-counting-activity-sheet-autumn_ver_1.pdf*~hmac=6ab01ab6264ba5230637d723354f9a8e6471599df1090737c8d449e372a22e66

You could make a Hedgehog using some Playdough and maybe some spaghetti for the Hedgehog's spikes? What shapes could you use to make your Hedgehog? How many spikes does your Hedgehog have?

Have you filled your Autumn bag? How many items can you fit in your Autumn bag? How much does it weigh? What are the heaviest and lightest objects in there?

I can't wait to see what you have managed to collect in your bags. I look forward to sharing them with you.



Songs/Stories

This is our Pre-School Autumn song . Sing to tune of Jingle Bells

Leaves are falling
Leaves are falling
One fell on my nose
Leaves are falling
Leaves are falling
One fell on my toes
Leaves are falling
Leaves are falling
One fell on my head
Leaves are falling
Leaves are falling
Yellow, orange and red



You can also try:

In the Autumn Song

(Sing to the tune of 'Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star'.)

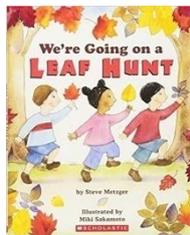
In the autumn, leaves fall down,
See them floating to the ground.
Red and yellow autumn leaves,
Floating down from the tall trees.
In the autumn, leaves fall down,
See them floating to the ground.

In the autumn, find fir cones,
Harvest fruit when it has grown.
Conkers, acorns you might see,
Hidden in the fallen leaves.
In the autumn, find fir cones,
Harvest fruit when it has grown.

In the autumn, September,
October and November.
In the fields there are scarecrows,
We dress up in warmer clothes.
In the autumn, September,
October and November.

Stories :

Room on the Broom – Julia Donaldson
We're going on a leaf hunt - Steve Metzger
Let it fall – Maryann Cocca-Leffler
Aargh Spider – Lydia Monks



At Pre-School we have been reading:

Listen Listen – Phillis Gershator (about all seasons)

and

We're Going on a Bear Hunt – Michael Rosen (good for Autumn walks...)

