

Scallywags Pre School

The Jubilee Suite, The Parish Hall, Halwill Junction,

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Registered Charity Number: 1033643 Ofsted registered number: 106369

July 2025 Newsletter

The end of term is nearly here but we're still busy! We would like to say a big well done to all the children who did fantastically well on sports day!!

GENERAL INFORMATION & UPDATES

A reminder for the 2025/2026 Term Dates:

Autumn Term: 03/09/25-18/12/2025 (half term 27-31st October)
Spring Term: 05/01/2026-02/04/2026 (half term 16-20th February)

Summer Term: 20/04/26-17/07/2026 (half term 25-29th May)

You will have already been asked by the team to complete your booking forms for next September – whilst we appreciate this is early, it really will help us to be able to plan staffing for next term – with the funding increases it very difficult to predict what our numbers will look like – please make sure to confirm your requests to Lorraine or Jenny.

25/26 Admissions - If you or someone you know has a child that is looking to start Scallywags in the Autumn, or Spring term next year, please contact Pennie to register interest. We want to make sure we can avoid the need to halt enrolments as we had to do earlier this year – and the more notice we get the better we can plan!

Funding -As you may be aware Working Entitlement funding for children 9-months old and above will be extended to 30 hours from September – To take full advantage of this at Scallywags it is vital to claim this entitlement in the term **before** your child's 2nd birthday (before they start). Please speak to Pennie for more information on how this works.

Facebook - Most of you are a member of our parent's group on Facebook – (if you aren't please do ask – as it is a private group you will need to be invited, and you cannot find it through searches). It's a great platform for us to be able to share important information, resources and reminders. We do of course control who is a member of the group and it is solely current parents, staff and committee members. At the end of August any parents of school leavers will be removed.

Stay and play – we are hopeful that we will again be able to offer stay and play sessions in the Autumn term – please keep an eye out for adverts on our social media once we have the details confirmed.

Thank you – Many of you will have seen Lewis (Lorna's husband) working hard at the end of last week to help us with some maintenance – we have a nice new fence to hide our bright yellow bin, a new bird box, and repairs completed to the main fence, amongst other jobs – thank you Lewis!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT

Our annual general meeting will be on WEDNESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER at Scallywags 7.30pm

This is a chance for all parents to come and meet the team, see what we've been doing, and what are plans are for the upcoming year – we will have tea and biscuits too! It is also the time when we vote in our committee.

This year we are losing two committee members, and we thank Hayley Potter for 5+years support and Becky Hutton for her support the past three years. We are currently reliant on parents who don't have children at Scallywags however, legally, we need a certain proportion of committee members to be active parents to comply with our Constitution.

Therefore, we are actively seeking new committee members from our parents for 25/26. It is a very rewarding role and vital to keep the pre-school viable and support with the fundraising we need. We meet once a month for meetings and as you know run several fundraising events throughout the year. There are no required qualifications, but we do need a DBS check (which we pay for) and an Ofsted Vetting check to be completed. We will also provide relevant training if needed with regards to safeguarding as well as role specific training. We will be looking for someone to take on the secretary role and policies.

No committee, no Scallywags so please do get in touch if you think you can help!

EXTENSION OF EARLY YEARS PROVISION IN HALWILL

Last year the Government announced increases in funding for the early years sector by up to £500m. This includes increased funding for children aged 9months+ from September of up to 30 hours per week. Halwill currently only has childcare provision from 2 years of age, however there is an identified demand in this area for more childcare places and for places starting from 9 months old.

Scallywags Pre-School does not have the capacity, in its current set up, to extend its age range. Therefore, the team at Scallywags is in the early stages of discussions with Halwill Primary School to look at ways in which we could, in the future, find a way to offer expanded provision here in Halwill.

There are multiple options, with multiple hurdles but we will of course keep our families up to date with any viable proposals.

WHATS ON THIS TERM??

School Leavers / Graduation - Wednesday July 16th

This term we say goodbye to 15 of our children who are moving up to school – it's lovely to see them going down to school for their transition sessions. We will miss them, but we are also excited for the journey ahead of them.

Parents of school leavers are invited to join us at **4pm** on Wednesday 16th July for a Graduation ceremony.

End of Term Scallywags Party - Friday July 18th from 9.30am

It's not the end of term without a celebration!

On the last day of term are lucky to have a visit from Rub Pudner from Entertainingly Different, and also soft play during the morning. For lunch we will be enjoying a delicious meal from the Junction Inn, hopefully outside on the grass if the weather allows!

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO BOOK YOUR CHILDS MEAL CHOICE – BOOKING SHEET IS NEXT TO THE SIGNING IN SHEET

All scallywags are invited to join us for the morning's entertainment and over lunch time, but if it is not your child's normal day you will need to accompany them at the session. We also understand that younger siblings may need to come with you, however we are only able to provide lunches for the Scallywags children.

End of term Disco - Friday July 18th

Our popular end of term disco returns! As per usual the evening will be split into two sessions:

- 5.30pm 6.30pm- Early Years & Key stage 1 (Toddlers, Scallywags, Class 1 & 2)
 Parents must accompany their children at this session.
- 7pm 8.30pm Key stage 2 (Class 3 & 4)
 Parents must drop their children at the door and provide a contact telephone number before leaving.

Entrance cost is 50p and as usual we will have a tuck shop, glow sticks and temporary tattoos for sale.

Please note that the children will not be allowed to bring mobile phones to the disco, and for safety children in the lower age group will not be allowed to stay during the second session.

FUNDRAISING

As always, your support with our fundraising is gratefully received! Thank you to those of you who supported the BBQ bingo – we raised £565!

Tesco Stronger Starts – We are lucky enough to have been chosen to partner with TESCO's STRONGER STARTS. From July – September when you shop at the Launceston store, you will be able to pop your blue token in the pot with Scallywags as one of the causes! All support is appreciated – so please spread the word! This will enable us to get a grant of up to £750 to go towards our food provision. Please do remember though, we do not charge for snacks and breakfast, so any donations are always welcome!

We've got lots of exciting ideas for the Autumn term so please do keep your eyes peeled for our event dates, and please do come along and support us! Every penny goes straight back into Scallywags and making sure the provision is the best it can be!

Don't forget you can continue to support us over the Summer by shopping at your favourite retailers through easyfundraising online! Simply sign up for an account and select us as your cause – then when you shop at thousands of your favourite retailers online, we get some extra pennies in our pot without costing you extra!

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our events between now and the end of term – and we also wish you all a safe and fun Summer holidays!

Lorna, Staff & Committee. chair.scallywags@outlook.com