



Sallywags Pre School
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Ofsted registered number: 106369

May 2025 Newsletter

Another half term is nearly over and we're just 1 half term away from the Summer – but it is a busy one so please do make sure to pop all of the dates in your diary!

2025/2026 Term Dates

Autumn Term: 03/09/25-18/12/25 (Half Term 27th -31st Oct)
Spring Term: 05/01/26-02/04/26 (Half Term 16th-20th Feb)
Summer Term: 20/04/26-17/07/26 (Half term 25th -29th May)

Hours – Any changes to your bookings for next half term should be in by now but it's still possible to ask for extra bookings as you go along, whether paid or funded, which we will try to accommodate where staffing allows. We have introduced a new form for extra bookings which needs completing with a parent signature (please ask Lorraine for a form)

25/26 Admissions – As you are aware we halted new enrolments and moved to a waiting list earlier this year as we were at capacity – due to staff recruitment we will be able to enrol all children on the current waiting list in September or January as requested – however with funding entitlement increasing from next year it makes it very difficult to predict what our hourly uptake will be. So, we encourage any future Sallywags families to contact us as soon as possible if they will be looking for a place for their little ones next year. Please contact Pennie via the main email address for a registration form. The more we know in advance the better we can plan and hopefully avoid a situation where we cannot accept new children. Please do pass this on to anyone you know who might be looking for a place in the next academic year!

From September 2025 the Govt will be extending Working Entitlement funding for children aged 9 months to 2 years old to 30 hours per week (currently 15). If you have a younger child who you would like to start with us in the Autumn or Spring from their 2nd birthday, and you think you might be entitled to this funding, then we urge you to apply for it the term before they turn 2, so that it can start straight away when they are 2 years old. You should do this even if you only want your child to attend for the minimum 3 hours a week. Please speak to Pennie for more information

Extended Sessions – we will continue to provide our extended sessions into the 25/26 academic year. However, we do need to know how many are likely to want to make use of these hours so we can future proof the service. The extended hours can be paid for with fees or you can use funding entitlement and don't forget we provide breakfast snacks and afternoon snacks during those extra periods. Current uptake still falls below financial

viability, but we know how essential it is for some families, so we don't want to withdraw it. Again, if you think you will want to use those extended hours next year can you please let us know so we can assess its future.

Snack Donation – As you know, unlike some settings, we don't charge for the snacks we provide to the breakfast hours, mid-morning and after school hours. We are however grateful for any donations towards the cost of that. Last year we spent over £600 on snack. Donations can be made via BACS or by popping some cash into the yellow donation pot on the signing in desk.

Committee - As we will be losing some committee members at the end of this term as their children are moving up to school, we would like to ask our newer parents if it might be something that you'd be interested in doing. If so, please speak to Pennie or Lorna for more details. The committee holds the responsibility for a lot of the behind the scenes running and is essential to Scallywags existing. Without the committees' fundraising efforts, fees would have to increase which we all want to avoid! It really is so important we have support – and it can be fun to!

With the high number of children in setting everyday it has been decided that we won't be running Stay and Play sessions next half term. If you have a younger child who will be starting Scallywags soon you are welcome to join us for a familiarisation session. Please speak to Lorraine about arranging this.

WHATS ON THIS TERM??

Sports Day – Friday 20th June

Ready, Steady GO! Parents are invited to watch from 2pm. Again, if it is not your child's normal session time, please do bring them along so they can join us, but you must remain on site.

Photo Day – Friday 27th June

Harley-Jo Photography is back this year for both individual, sibling and group shots. A letter will be coming home about this, and the booking sheet will be available by the sign in sheet in setting at the start of next half term.

School Leavers / Graduation – Wednesday 16th July

Next term we say goodbye to **15** of our children who are moving up to school – We hope they enjoy their transitions sessions.

In a change to our graduation event format this year, we are inviting Parents of school leavers to join us at **4PM** as we reflect on their time with us and share some memories. Refreshments will be served.

End of Term Party – Friday 18th July

We will be marking the end of the year with a party, to include a children's entertainer. If it is not your child's normal day you are of course welcome to bring them along, but you will need to stay with them. This event will also include a party lunch.

FUNDRAISING

As always, your support with our fundraising is gratefully received!

Please remember you can continue to support us over the summer by shopping at your favourite retailers through easy fundraising 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!

BBQ BINGO – Friday 13th June

Come and win yourself a tasty hamper full of everything you need for a delicious BBQ with the family! As usual we will have our main game with three fab prizes per round as well as the cash flyer, goods flyer, Kids game and Raffle, BUT we are bringing the Bar back! So, grab a drink, grab your dabbers, and see what you can win!

We are looking for prize donations please - these can be passed to Scallywags after half term – thank you! There is a pledge sheet on the signing in desk for this.

Doors open at 7.15 pm, Eyes down 8pm

End of term Disco – Friday 18th June

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.

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