



Newsletter

January 2025



We hope you all had a Merry Christmas and wish you a safe and Happy New Year!

Looking back on last term, what a wonderful end of term we had! The end of term party went well and even included a visit from a very special guest.

As we start the new term and the new year we would like to say a huge thank you for your ongoing support. Your donations of cooking supplies, craft materials and resources have been invaluable in assisting the children with their play, learning and development.

We'd also like to take the opportunity to say thank you for the kind Christmas gifts which were most gratefully received.



Here's a taste of some of the other things we've been up to...



The children have been on wonderful trips and walks around Sedbury and Chepstow, not only developing a sense of road safety but also an understanding of where they live and the community around them. Visits have included trips to Chepstow Castle, Whirlikidz and the local Cenotaph.

Ice play - we've taken full advantage of the weather, leaving water to freeze ready for exploring the ice the next day. We've been talking about how it feels to be cold and how we keep warm and safe in the colder weather.

Forest fun - a chance to get muddy and become adventurous: digging, bug hunting, den building, rope swinging and see-saws!



We have lots planned for this term and we can't wait to share it with you all!



We are on Social Media! Please like our Facebook Page 'Penguins' and join our parent group via www.facebook.com/groups/penguinsparentpage2024*

*This is a closed Facebook group for current families only to share photos, upcoming events and activities.

The link to our Instagram page is <https://www.instagram.com/patapenguins/>



Notices and Reminders

On arrival

Parents are asked to sign their children in before entering the building, hanging up bags and coats and then sending children into the room.

It is essential (and an OFSTED requirement) that you sign your children in and out of each session accurately. This allows us to be sure who will be collecting your child and also ensures their safety.

Please use this signing in form to record any medication that has been administered to your child, detailing the time, dosage and reason given. If further medication needs to be administered during sessions, please ask a member of staff for further information.



Absences

If your child will not be in session due to illness or holidays please could we ask that you contact us to let us know.



If you have any newspapers, empty kitchen tubes, boxes or drawing paper at home please send them our way as we use them for messy activities!

We'd also appreciate donations of corks, bottle tops, sandpaper, wood offcuts & beads to stock our wood working area.

Lunchboxes

We've noticed a few lunchboxes containing whole cocktail sausages, grapes, tomatoes etc. Please ensure these items are **cut lengthways** to avoid choking.

We are a nut free setting and try to promote healthy eating We suggest no more than one sweet treat each day. If you are unsure of what to put into your child's lunchbox, please ask a member of staff or see our lunchbox ideas poster in the cloakroom.

Please remember to label all bags, lunchboxes and drinks bottles with your child's name.



Communication book & library book

Drinks bottle (with water)

Warm hat (cooler months)

Sun hat and sun cream (warmer months)

Spare clothes... just in case!

Warm, waterproof coat (for outdoor play whatever the weather!)

Wellington Boots (perfect for puddle jumping!)

Nappies and wipes (if needed)

Lunchbox (no nuts please!)

PE Kit preschool only (to practise for school)

What should my child bring to each session?

Please ensure all items are clearly marked with your child's name.

PATA@ PENGUINS

We know drop off can be a little busy sometimes! If you do have any important messages (and just in case you don't get to speak with us), please note them into your child's communication book. We check these at the beginning of each session and can either respond as appropriate or arrange a suitable time to catch up with you if we need some more information.

Thank you for your ongoing support,








Sophie and the team

Thank you!

Dates for your diaries: Feb - Mar 2025

Please note other occasions and events may arise during the term but will be advertised outside on our notice board.



February		
w/c 3rd Feb	Lunar New Year Celebration Week (Wednesday 29th January) 	A range of activities on offer to the children to celebrate Lunar New Year - exploring foods, reading the Luna story and singing the new year song. This year is the year of the snake
w/c 10th Feb	Valentine's Day Celebrations (14th February) 	Themed activities to mark and discuss the celebration of love. You are invited to wear red or pink. Who will your Valentine be?
Friday 14th February - INSET Day (setting closed to children) 17th - 21st February - Half Term		
March		
Monday 3rd Mar	St David's Day Celebrations (1st March) 	Welsh themed activities including making your very own dragon, tasting Welsh cakes and learning some Welsh words.
Tuesday 4th Mar	Shrove Tuesday 	Pancakes to try with a variety of toppings!
Thursday 6th Mar	World Book Day 	A chance to dress up as your favourite book character and share your favourite book with your friends.
Monday 17th Mar	St Patrick's Day 	Exploring the colour green, Irish Dancing and soda bread
Friday 28th Mar	Mothers' Day Activities (30th March) 	Activities on offer to make unique cards and gifts for mums (or the person they want to celebrate).
14th April 2025 - 25th April 2025 Easter Holidays We look forward to welcoming children back to setting on 28th April 2025		