

## Trustees Annual Report 2024

### **Autumn 2023.**

We welcomed back 3 of our existing children and four new children.

This term was all about getting to know the children and helping to settle them into preschool and filling the Preschool routine. With a range of ages from 2.3 - 4 years their needs were all very different. And with new ones who were quite little their attention span was small. So chat times were short and we focused on lots of support with their personal and social development as well as their language skills.

We followed their interests of vehicles, our families and the community. Before moving onto the topic of Autumn and then Christmas. We went on walks around the local area looking at the colours and leaves learning about the animals you may see in autumn. Learning about colours that we see, messy painting with trucks and listening to the recycling lorry outside. Then going onto learn about christmas taking part in decorating our own tree with children's angel decorations in the church.

A few prospective visitors looked around and we then had two new starters. One who had been coming to toddler group who then wanted to join the Preschool.

We had a visit from the fire service to do their fire check. We were very lucky as they brought their fire engine so the children really enjoyed that.

We worked hard settling a little boy

At the last AGM, I stepped down as Chair and transitioned into the role of Manager, taking over from Khadine as Supervisor and assuming Sarah's managerial responsibilities. Working one morning a week at preschool and doing a few hours admin at home. We said goodbye to Khadine as a member of staff but welcomed her onto the committee.

We anticipated Ofsted which we were due as our last inspection was 2018 5 years ago.

### **Spring 2024**

We welcomed 2 new children this term..both families had previously attended with their older children.

Our topics this term started with winter: looking at the weather, winter animals, food and clothing before learning about Chinese new year. We then went on to learn about mothers and babies, looking at weight and measurement, ourselves as babies and mothers day and Easter. We made some porridge to warm us up on the cold winter days and had a go at using chopsticks to eat noodles at snack time. The children came in dressed up for world book day and we looked at their favourite books.

Our trips this term were a fun visit to Junglaroo as well as taking part in Little City in the village hall.

The EYA Helen Stephenson came to visit to check in and support us as needed.

3 new children started some who have been to toddler group. Toddler group had a busy first day back after more advertising on Facebook. With 12 people then the following 8.

Preschool celebrated their 40th Birthday with a cake and an article in the Gazette. Sarah came down to help us celebrate and the children made a 40th banner.

### **Summer term**

We now have 13 in on a Friday and 10 on a Tuesday. So we have 3 of us working on Fridays. This has been a good opportunity for us to all work together as a team and share our ideas.

We welcomed 4 new children most of whom who's older siblings have been with us previously.

Our topics this term were looking after our teeth, spring, life cycles, insects, planting and growing.

We focused on getting the school leavers ready for school encouraging further independence and school readiness..such as asking for help, putting shoes and coats on and working out turn taking.

We looked after caterpillars and watched them grow and turn into cocoons before transitioning into butterflies. Flo's mum Sarah kindly lent us a box of resources on looking after our teeth which the children really enjoyed especially clean the giant teeth with the giant toothbrush!

On 24th May we had our Ofsted inspection, which went very smoothly, a really nice inspector who made us all feel at ease. We were thrilled with our Good grading.

We had the early years consultant come to visit to support me as a new manager.

Our trips this term were to the St Johns Garden centre and Junglaroo.

After half term we trialed opening Thursdays with myself and Emma. After sending out a parent questionnaire we thought we should give it ago as many who were currently with us would take it up then see how it went from there.

We had a further 2 new starters both from swallows. Who also come to toddlers..one who loves toddlers so much mum.wanted to fit it in that she could do at least one session with us a week. We also had 3 visitors who signed up to start in September.

Emma and Georgina worked hard on preparing the school leavers transition documents to pass on to their teachers. We did a visit to Swimbridge school one afternoon which the children really enjoyed.

The children made a display with handprints to make a bunch of flowers for the church flower festival.

On the last day of term we invited families to join us for a Teddy bears picnic to say goodbye to the 5 big ones going off to school in September. They were presented with a little gift of

Mr men and little miss book appropriate to their character! A hand print with a personal poem and their graduation certificate. To show how special they are and to wish them all the best moving on.

The children were also treated with heart bon bon sweets from Emma and Georgina during the last week and a jammi dodger at snack time!

### **Autumn 2024**

Started back with a healthy number of 11 children on roll which has increased over the term.

Thursdays were a success so we continue with these. Most days we now have 10 or more children in the morning and dropping off in the afternoon.

We welcomed two new children and their families who had visited in the summer term.

Our topics this term have been Autumn, tractors and harvest. We had a great trip to Woolmers Barn farm visiting the animals and having a play.

We hope to visit the garden centre to see the Christmas decorations and model trains later in the term as well as the South Molton Christmas tree festival.

I want to thank Emma and Georgina for all the dedication, time, and care they pour into the Preschool. They truly make it a wonderful place to work and a warm, nurturing environment for the children. Their support has been invaluable in helping me settle into my role as manager, and I'm incredibly grateful for everything they do. Thank you both!



**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
SWIMBRIDGE PRE-SCHOOL**

I report on the financial statements of Swimbridge Pre-School of the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 which are set out on page 4.

**Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
  - (a) Proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - (b) Accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.
- 2 To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: D W Crick  
Crick & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
15a Silver Street  
Barnstaple  
EX32 8HR

Signed: 

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> October 2025

**SWIMBRIDGE PRE-SCHOOL**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

	2024	2024	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Fees from: Parents	7,744		4,723	
Childcare Vouchers	1,614		1,163	
Early Years Educational Funding	22,046		13,775	
		<u>31,404</u>		<u>19,661</u>
Other: Fundraising and Donations	1,213		1,686	
Grants	-		160	
Bank Interest	95		72	
		<u>1,308</u>		<u>1,918</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u><b>32,712</b></u>		<u><b>21,579</b></u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Rent	1,916		1,218	
Light and Heat	305		347	
Wages	26,648		18,115	
Insurance	768		608	
Telephone	545		411	
Professional Fees and Registration	50		936	
Administration Fees	50		41	
Training	142		120	
Equipment	449		-	
<b>Total Payments</b>		<u><b>30,873</b></u>		<u><b>21,796</b></u>
<b>NET SURPLUS -2023 DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR</b>		<u><b>1,839</b></u>		<u><b>217</b></u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF THE GENERAL FUND</b>				
Brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024		10,282		10,499
Net Surplus – 2023 Deficit - for the Year		1,839		217
		<u><b>12,121</b></u>		<u><b>10,282</b></u>
<b>MONETARY ASSETS</b>				
Cash at Bank: Lloyds		4,055		2,311
Treasurers Account		3,391		3,351
Business Account		4,675		4,620
Business 30 Day Account		<u>12,121</u>		<u>10,282</u>