



Methodist Church Hall, Claigmar Road, Rustington, West Sussex BN16 2NL

Tel: 07546 584314 Email: rascalsplaygroup@gmail.com

www.rascalsplaygroup.co.uk.

Newsletter – Autumn Term 2026

We hope you all had a wonderful summer. We would like to welcome back our older children and wish a very warm welcome to all our new little Rascals.

A newsletter will be issued at the beginning of each term containing lots of useful information. Copies of this newsletter as well as important updates will also be posted on our website. We also post regular reminders and useful information on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/RascalsPreSchoolPlaygroup so please feel free to LIKE us for regular updates and information in your newsfeed. This should enable you to have access to all the information you need when you need it.

Staffing:

Tracey - Manager/Safeguarding lead

Claire - Supervisor (Senco/ Inco)

Alana - Senior Assistant

Beckie - Senior Assistant

Hannah - Assistant

Sian - Senior Assistant (Part time)

Melanie - Bank Staff

Hayley - Bank Staff

Charli - Volunteer

Lauren - Volunteer

Julie - Volunteer

Collette - Volunteer

Term Dates:

Autumn Term 2026

Term begins:

Tuesday 1st September

Term ends:

Friday 11th December

Half term week:

26th October – 30th October

Spring Term 2027

Term begins:

Monday 4th January

Term end:

Thursday 25th March

Half term week:

15th February - 19th February

Summer Term 2027

Term begins:

Monday 12th April

Term ends:

Friday 16th July

Half term week:

31st May – 4th June

Bank Holiday 3rd May

Rascals may have to close on occasional days through the year. We will always give you as much notice as possible of such closures.

New children – My first 3 weeks

We will be sending out a 'My First 3 Weeks' form to all the new children starting in September. This gives a general overview of how your child has settled, their progress and what they have been enjoying at Rascals. There will be a comments section for you to add any questions or concerns you may have regarding their progress. For the relevant families, this will be sent out the week beginning **21st September**.

Stay and Play - Monday 9th November

From next half term we will be reintroducing our Stay and Play sessions to allow our families to come into Rascals and see what your children are enjoying taking part in. We would like to welcome you to come along and play for the first 45 minutes of this session (**9.30am-10.15am**) although we would ask that just one adult per child stays please to prevent it becoming too busy. Younger siblings are very welcome but will remain your responsibility whilst on the premises please. We also ask that you ensure you inform a member of staff when you are leaving so that they are able to supervise who is in the building and ensure all doors are secured once you have left. If you can't make it to this session, please don't worry as we will be doing some other Stay and Play sessions throughout the year, future dates will be Tuesday 12th January, Thursday 4th March, Friday 23rd April and Friday 18th June.

Parent consultations

Once a term you are offered the opportunity to meet with your key person to discuss how your child is getting on at Rascals. This will take place on **Wednesday 11th November**.

If your child is new to Rascals, this will be an opportunity for you to discuss how well your child has settled at Rascals with his/ her key person and to discuss any questions or concerns you may have regarding their progress.

If your child is returning to Rascals after the summer break this will be an opportunity for you to catch up with your key person and discuss your child's progress and agree targets for their next steps.

This evening runs from 5pm and your key person will be in touch to confirm an appointment time. We realise you may not be able to make the appointment time given to you and if this is the case then please do get in touch with us via email so that we can try to change it to a more suitable time for you. If you are away or know that you won't be able to make it that evening, please also let us know so that we can arrange to see you another day.

Children in Need

This year we will be supporting Children in Need on **Friday 20th November**, further information will be sent nearer the time.

Wellies

Please could we ask you to provide a pair of **CLEARLY NAMED** wellies for your child to keep at Rascals. With the weather changing recently, the children continue to enjoy playing outside in the rain or exploring messy play such as sand and water. We do have a few spare pairs if you have trouble getting hold of some.

Thank you in advance.

Christmas Nativity Performance

We are very excited to invite all the children to participate in a short nativity play. This involves the children wearing a costume and taking their place on the stage as the Christmas story is read followed by a few Christmas songs. We are planning our Christmas Performance for **Friday 11th December at 12pm**, more details to follow nearer the time.

School Starters 2027

School admissions for children starting school in 2027 will be opening on **Monday 6th October 2026**. We encourage families to visit the schools that they are interested in by contacting the schools and booking on to their open days and taster sessions. We will email out dates for these and share on our Facebook page so please keep an eye out for updates. If you require any further information on this, please don't hesitate to ask a member of staff.

The final date to apply for your child's school place will be **15th January** so we will check in with you all before then to ensure you have made your choice and that you have applied online.

Rascals Facebook group

Please ensure that you have joined our Rascals private Facebook group by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/146062360093618>

This is a **private** page and can only be used by current parents/carers of children attending Rascals during this academic year. It is a great way to communicate with other families and may help you all to become more familiar with each other as we realise this can be difficult when dropping off and collecting children. You can follow our public Facebook group for regular updates and reminders throughout the term.

Please keep in mind that this group is intended to be used for the purpose mentioned above and we would ask that any issues, concerns or worries you have about Rascals are not discussed within this group but be brought directly to us as usual so that we can address any such issues immediately.

You can also visit our general Rascals Facebook page which is available for everyone to follow. This can be found by following this link: <https://www.facebook.com/RascalsPreSchoolPlaygroup>

If there is anything you are unsure of or if you just need a bit of advice about something, please do speak to a member of staff who will be more than happy to help you.

We look forward to enjoying the Autumn Term with you all.

THANK YOU.

THE RASCALS TEAM

Rascals mobile: 07546584314

Rascals email: rascalsplaygroup@gmail.com

[PLEASE NOTE: The Rascals mobile phone and email address are constantly monitored by Tracey. During out of hours and particularly over weekends and holidays you may not receive an immediate response. However, if you are contacting us with a matter of urgency an email is always the best form of communication].

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- **For NEW children: 'My First 3 Weeks' form to be given out:**
Week beginning Monday 21st September
- **School Admissions Open:** Monday 6th October
- **Parents Consultation:** Wednesday 11th November
- **Half term:** Monday 26th – Friday 30th October
- **Children in Need:** Friday 20th November
- **Christmas Nativity Performance:** Friday 11th December
- **Last day of term:** Friday 11th December