

3. Chair Report

Annual General Meeting

It is a pleasure to present this Chair's Report for Paulerspury Pre-School, reflecting on what has been a busy and eventful year.

Overview and External Developments

I would like to start by stating that Paulerspury Pre-School stands apart from other settings in the area by offering high-quality, caring, and affordable early years education. The expertise and professionalism of our staff is invaluable, and families can truly trust that their children are in safe and nurturing hands. Our heartfelt thanks go to the entire staff team for their dedication, energy, and care.

Our well-established private setting is at the heart of the Paulerspury Community and offers our children rich opportunities to learn and play both indoors and outdoors with a variety of thoughtfully arranged toys and activities to promote their learning and development. Through ongoing fundraising and investment, we will continue to enhance this setting and learning environment and aim towards achieving "Outstanding" status, ensuring our pre-school remains relevant and resilient.

The new Committee began the year facing a challenge: the formal consultation to lower the age range at Paulerspury Primary School to 3–11 years, thereby incorporating a pre-school within the school setting. As a Committee, we attended the consultation meeting and provided formal feedback highlighting the potential risks to our pre-school and the wider community should this proposal proceed.

Since then, we have closely monitored the progress of the new school-based pre-school while also conducting a broader market review to understand the local early years landscape within West Northamptonshire. This research, alongside changes in governing policies, evolving market trends, and the insights gained by our committee, has informed our new three-year business plan.

We would like to wish the local primary school well, as they have since received funding under the School-Based Nursery Scheme. As well as inform all of our intention to continue to offer a preeminent pre-school experience for many years. Serving the needs of local families within Paulerspury and the surrounding towns and villages.

Autumn and Winter Term Activities

The start of the academic year was particularly busy with a new committee, new children, a new staff member, and several new fundraising initiatives.

The following were particular highlights:

- A wonderful Nativity performance, organised by staff with support from volunteers — a truly special event for families.
- A free ChaChar Chimps session, generously offered by a local business — a great example of community collaboration.
- A new Christmas Wreath-Making evening, which proved a festive and creative success thanks to all who contributed.
- The Christmas raffle, with prizes donated by parents, raised excellent funds by being promoted across several events.
- The Children's Tea Towels project — a charming keepsake organised by staff and much appreciated by families.

Spring Term Activities

Fundraising efforts over winter enabled us to purchase new equipment for our Home Corner, Arts & Crafts, and Small World play areas. The Spring Term also saw exciting visits from the Police, Paramedics, and Fire Service, offering enriching experiences for the children. We also trialled a Mother's Day Bake Sale, which was warmly received.

A parent questionnaire helped guide future fundraising plans, though engagement was limited and it prompted us to improve how we communicate with families. We are now sending a Committee update letter to parents each term and we are shortly introducing a parent WhatsApp group and developing a combined Facebook page to better share updates, promote events, and gather feedback.

Outdoor Space Development

We began focusing on upgrading our outdoor space, recognising its importance for children's wellbeing and learning. Our aim is to replace the ageing fort, the gazebo, and playhouse with a new outdoor classroom and updated play equipment — potentially themed around construction or balance and agility. Early discussions with contractors were encouraging, though progress stalled temporarily. More recently, we have secured new quotes from both local and national contractors, estimating a project cost of £20,000–£25,000. We are now actively seeking grant funding and organising a full calendar of community fundraising events to bring this transformation to life.

This project will create a lasting legacy — a space where children can learn, explore, and thrive outdoors in all seasons. We warmly welcome anyone interested in joining the committee to help make this vision a reality.

Summer Term and Year-End Review

The Summer Term brought sunshine and more wonderful experiences for the children — including another ChaChar Chimps session, new toys and craft activities, and a lovely graduation ceremony. We rounded off the year with a new fundraising event, Party at the Farm, led by a committee member who took initiative and inspired others to deliver a hugely successful and evening for all.

Throughout the year, we have also updated our Committee Handbook, which now serves as an essential guide for all members. We embraced new tools such as Google Forms, Canva, and TicketSource, and collaborated with new partners like The Little Recyclers clothing donation scheme.

Committee Reflections

While we have achieved much, we continue to face challenges in maintaining a fully staffed and active committee. Many members are working parents balancing busy lives, and although WhatsApp meetings have helped, we intend to schedule more face-to-face meetings in the coming year, which we believe foster stronger teamwork.

Administrative requirements for joining the committee remain time-consuming and in some cases ongoing. We are still seeking a Treasurer, and while a staff member has done an excellent job covering essential duties, areas such as pensions, savings, and investments would benefit from dedicated oversight. Our current flexible structure allows for members to partake when possible but can also mean individuals often take on multiple roles.

Staff and Acknowledgements

We were delighted to welcome two new members of staff this year, both of whom have brought fresh ideas and great enthusiasm. We also congratulate a team member who achieved new professional qualifications.

Our pre-school is thriving thanks to the commitment and warmth of our staff, and we remain dedicated to providing them with the tools, resources, and environment they deserve. Thank you to each of you — your work truly makes a difference.

A Call to Action

Finally, I would like to encourage any stakeholders, parents or carers who are interested to join our committee. The committee is a welcoming group of individuals who contribute what they can, when they can. Being part of it is a rewarding opportunity to get more involved in your child's pre-school experience, support a vital local service, make friends, learn new skills, and even have some fun along the way.

Roles on the committee are varied and flexible, and every contribution — big or small — makes a genuine impact.

In Closing

This year has brought challenges, progress, and many successes. Our new fundraising events, including the Wreath Making and Summer Party, have not only raised essential funds but also strengthened our community.

Paulerspury Pre-School continues to demonstrate what can be achieved when passionate staff, dedicated volunteers, and supportive families work together. Thank you all for being part of this journey — and for helping ensure our pre-school remains a valued and vibrant part of the local community.

Twelve-Month Cash Flow														Fiscal Year Sep-24 Begins:
Paulerspury Pre-School High Street, Paulerspury, Northamptonshire www.paulerspurypreschool.co.uk														
	Beginning	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Monthly Average 12 Months
Cash Summary														
Cash on Hand (beginning of month)	58,671	58,671	60,310	61,949	63,157	63,242	65,627	68,453	73,375	72,041	71,285	71,407	71,115	61,015
Cash Available (on hand + receipts,	58,671	69,016	70,210	72,083	73,103	74,653	77,016	82,476	82,014	80,759	82,131	82,154	79,662	70,233
Cash Position (end of month)	58,671	60,310	61,949	63,157	63,242	65,627	68,453	73,375	72,041	71,285	71,407	71,115	70,781	61,614
Cash Receipts														
Fees - Taxfree Childcare		675	201	498	357	195	587	1,443	312	524	1,015	1,440	0	604
Fees - paid online		1,060	1,027	1,109	577	1,206	792	1,260	500	955	1,557	1,509	0	963
Uniform purchases		26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Fundraising / Donations		328	1,012	775	1,222	0	0	143	281	50	252	36	31	344
Government Funding		7,770	7,435	7526	7,314	9,782	9,782	10,736	7,319	6,962	7,594	7,724	8,479	8,202
SEND/DAF Payment		190	190	190	190	190	190	190	190	190	190	0	0	158
EYPP Funding		36	36	36	36	37	37	37	38	38	38	38	38	37
Interest		251	0	0	233	0	0	214	0	0	200	0	0	75
Other		10	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total Cash Receipts		10,345	9,900	10,134	9,946	11,411	11,388	14,023	8,639	8,718	10,845	10,747	8,547	10,387
Cash Paid Out														
Wages		6,329	6,294	6,754	7,036	6,830	6,811	7,278	7,688	7,676	8,005	8,074	7,830	7,217
PAYE to HMRC		969	682	684	737	721	664	681	1,108	830	815	896	910	808
Website		50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	60	51
Village Hall Hire		0	935	975	985	675	935	720	1,020	535	735	1,050	0	714
DBS		13	59	13	0	16	0	73	0	0	0	89	16	23
Broadband/Mobile		56	56	56	56	56	56	56	60	60	67	60	60	59
Flowers & Gifts		0	0	53	273	0	0	0	9	0	0	195	0	44
Equipment		0	0	0	11	338	0	0	0	0	8	49	0	34
Other		0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Consumables		20	17	17	30	16	21	17	11	35	33	0	0	18
EYPP Spend		28	6	21	7	178	19	44	3	27	25	73	0	36
Accounting		0	0	154	0	0	0	139	0	164	120	133	0	59
Stationery		0	0	8	5	87	0	0	0	0	125	7	0	19
Subscriptions		162	0	35	0	35	0	0	0	75	0	185	0	41
Insurance		1,054	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	88
Training		20	36	18	18	18	0	36	18	18	571	0	0	63
Advertising		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges		5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Fundraising Costs		0	121	82	628	0	0	0	0	0	164	171	0	97
Total Cash Paid Out		8,706	8,260	8,926	9,861	9,025	8,562	9,101	9,973	9,474	10,724	11,039	8,881	9,378
Operating Profit/Loss		1,639	1,640	1,208	85	2,385	2,826	4,922	(1,334)	(756)	122	(292)	(334)	1,009
Closing Balance Barclays Account		18,590	20,235	21,467	21,324	23,715	26,546	31,259	29,930	29,179	29,106	28,819	28,459	25,719
Closing Balance in Current Account		1,797	1,792	1,768	1,763.55	1,758.55	1,753.55	1,749.42	1,744.42	1,739	1,736	1,731	1,756	1,757
Closing Balance Gold Savings Account		39,922	39,922	39,922	40,154	40,154	40,154	40,367	40,367	40,367	40,566	40,566	40,566	40,252
CLOSING BALANCE		60,310	61,949	63,157	63,242	65,628	68,453	73,375	72,041	71,285	71,407	71,115	70,781	67,729

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES/MEMBERS OF PAULERSPURY PRE-SCHOOL

For the year ended 31 August 2025

I report on my examination of the accounts of Paulerspury Pre-school Charity Number 1158601 for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

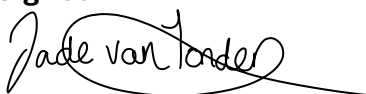
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Jade van Tonder

26.03.2026