



The Lawns Nursery School February 2024 Newsletter

The Children's Learning

This term the children have settled back into the routine of nursery and we have enjoyed watching them grow in confidence. The older children have been very kind supporting the new children in finding their way around the classroom and the outside area too. We have focused on getting to know each other and are seeing new friendships flourishing daily.

The weather is definitely improving and the children have been voting with their feet choosing to be outside more. Lots of the children have enjoyed using the woodwork bench for the first time, practicing joining materials and getting used to the tools and safety rules. They have learned to use the queuing system whereby they write or mark make their name, add it to the five frame and when they are at the front of the five frame it is their turn. This provides us with lots of opportunities to use number and counting in context too.



The children have been learning about and sharing their experiences of Lunar New Year at nursery. We are fortunate to belong to such a diverse community, providing us with rich opportunities to celebrate different customs and traditions together whilst demonstrating the importance of respectfully embracing our similarities and differences.

Thank you to all of the parents, grandparents and friends who have joined us this term for our Multicultural Fortnight, sharing their cultures and traditions, stories and artefacts from their countries of birth. We look forward to welcoming the Earthsong Drummers on Wednesday for a 'Trip Around the World.'



Reminders

- Please collect your child promptly at the end of their session. If due to unforeseen circumstances you are likely to be late please call Nursery on 01753 865351.
- Please return your child's Learning Map sheet to their key person once you have added your comments. We value your contributions enormously and your comments help us to personalise your child's learning even more.



Deferrals

We are keen to begin offering our places to children starting at Nursery in September 2024. If you are thinking of deferring your child's place to First/Infant/Primary school then please can you let the office know as soon as possible. Your child's key person will be able to answer any questions or queries you may have about deferring. If we do not hear from you we will assume that your child is leaving us in July 2024 if they are eligible to start school.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 21st February- Friday 1st March-Multicultural fortnight- please join us in Nursery to share your culture.

Wednesday 28th February- Earthsong Drummers in Nursery. The children will have the opportunity to listen and play.

Wednesday 6th March - Come and Read for World Book Day, parents and carers are invited into Nursery at the beginning of each session to share books. (8.45– 9.45am) and (12.30 – 1pm) . We will also provide a copy of our personal, social and emotional development booklet for parents.

Thursday 7th March– Mother's Day shop, bring £2 for a gift.

Friday 15th March– Comic Relief fundraiser, wear something funny for money.

Thursday 28th March - Break up for Easter holidays. Nursery session finishes at 11.45am. There is no lunch club today.

Friday 29th March - Monday 15th April - Easter Holidays.

Monday 15th April and Tuesday 16th April - Nursery visits for new children

Wednesday 17th April - Children return to Nursery today.



Musical Fortnight



Thank you to all of our fantastically talented and generous parents and grandparents who came in to join us for our musical fortnight. It's important to us to inspire the children in as many ways as we can during their short time at The Lawns and they certainly were inspired by the range of instruments we were fortunate to be introduced to thanks to our lovely community.

Supporting your child's learning at home — Top tips for sharing books

*Put aside 10 minutes twice a day for sharing books, make this a special time with your undivided attention - turn off the TV, switch off your mobile phone.

*Allow your child to choose the book - make sure that you sit so that your child can see the pictures/text and is able to point things out that interest him/her. Allow him/her to hold the book. Talk about the picture on the cover - what will this story be about? How do you know?

*Use special voices to represent different characters - your child will love this!

*Explain any difficult vocabulary .

*Allow your child to stop you, turn back pages and make comments.

*Talk about the characters — what are they doing? What are they thinking? How are they feeling?

*Create suspense using your voice. What is going to happen next?

*Draw your child's attention to special features of the book e.g. rhyming words, text that may be written in bolder and larger print that tells you to read that part of the story louder, repeated refrains etc.



Big
Huge
Massive
Enormous

Speech Technique of the Month

Use a variety of words

Your child needs to hear lots of different words before they are able to put together long sentences.

Use a variety of words when you make a comment

Loud

Quietly

Noisy

Softly

Beautiful
Pretty
Gorgeous
Fabulous

Sad
Excited
Lonely
Scared
Miserable

Potty/Toilet Training

Many parents ask us about potty training. Once you feel that your child is **ready** for potty/toilet training and **the time is right**, we will be very happy to support this at Nursery.

It is advisable to:

- Speak to your key person so we can work together;
- Ensure that your child is settled at Nursery and there are no other changes such as a house move or new baby etc;
- Read books about toilet training or use older siblings/peers as positive role models;
- **Don't use 'pull-ups'** - children need to experience being wet/dirty in order to understand and learn from 'accidents'. Pull-ups feel like nappies so they often confuse children and delay the toilet training process - mistakes are how we learn!
- Have a good supply of pants/knickers at all times;
- Ensure your child is dressed in clothing that can easily be pulled down in a hurry (**no tight clothes, jeans or dungarees**) - tracksuit bottoms are perfect;
- **No reprimanding for accidents** as this will make the process stressful and may lead to more accidents!



Songs and Rhymes

Songs and rhymes are a key part of the Nursery curriculum as they are soothing, comforting, motivating and exciting. Songs can be to bring people together and create shared enjoyment which are both key factors in learning. We would recommend that you sing, participate in action rhymes and move to music regularly with your child. Benefits include:

- Build healthy and strong relationships and increases feelings of well-being
- Helps children to understand transitions and routines
- Develops attention and listening skills
- Helps develop understanding and expression of language
- Helps children to learn the back and forth nature of conversations
- Finger rhymes help improve fine motor strength and co-ordination
- Help to develop gross motor skills and when movements involve crossing the mid-line both sides of the brain work together to form new connections
- Rhythm helps to develop math skills



For further information see: <https://www.froebel.org.uk/uploads/documents/FT-Songs-Rhymes-and-Finger-Plays-Pamphlet.pdf>