



The Lawns Nursery School Newsletter Autumn 1 2025

We have had a busy start to the Autumn term welcoming back our new and existing children and families. The children are already learning so much, building relationships and having lots of fun!

All the staff have been getting to know the new children and their families firstly with home and Nursery visits and then taking time to get to know the children while they settle in. For some children it can take a little longer and we will always work with you to help your child to feel confident, relaxed and happy in our setting.

It is important that we take the time to learn from you as parents and carers as you are the experts on your children, so please talk to us whenever you can and tell us about their favourite Nursery activities and what they say about Nursery at home.

We have been focusing on teaching the children our three Nursery Rules.

READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE

Ready,
Respectful,
Safe

By **ready** we mean ready to learn (looking, listening), ready for group time (in right place), ready to go outside (coats, hats).

By **respectful** we mean being kind to each other, sharing, looking after the environment, saying please and thank you, looking after our pets, looking after toys and books.

By **safe** we mean sensible walking inside, handling tools carefully, telling an adult if something looks or feels uncomfortable, using outdoor equipment sensibly, having kind hands.

We explore their meaning with the children and will be referring to the rules constantly in our positive behaviour management strategies e.g. "Remember we need to walk inside to be safe", "Remember you need your coat to be ready for outside", "Remember you need to share to be respectful" etc. It would be great if you could also use these words at home. linked to your own household rules.

We will also continue to give lots of verbal praise to those children who always go **OVER AND ABOVE** our usual expectations.

The children have been practising at Nursery using lanyards just like the adults!

We are often asked for advice on aspects of children's behaviour at home. Please come and chat to us if you have any worries or concerns.

Reminders



- * Please try and name all clothing. This helps us to return coats, hats and other items to their owners.
- * Please be prompt at collection time; staff have a very short lunchtime and meetings to attend after school.
- * Please bring in nappies/baby wipes and spare clothes if your child requires them.
- * Please ensure your child wears clothes that enable them to access the curriculum and allow easy access to the toilet. The children spend time outside everyday and need to be free to climb, jump and move.
- * Please make sure that your child wears shoes that are safe to climb in. Velcro trainers are ideal but please avoid crocs, flip flops etc.
- * Please telephone the Nursery on the first day of absence if your child is unable to attend. The current advice from health professionals is that children should be clear from the symptoms of a stomach bug for 48 hours before they return to Nursery.
- * Please can we remind all parents and carers that we operate a no mobile phone policy within the Nursery for safeguarding reasons.
- * If your mobile number changes please update us with an emergency contact asap.
- * Please can we ask that children do not play on the outside equipment at the end of the sessions, thank you.
- * Please check emails or our website for reminders, letters, weekly planning and newsletters. Please click [HERE](#) to view our newsletters on our website.

Early Years Pupil Premium

Your child may qualify for additional support with their education if you are claiming any of the following:

Universal Credit (earnings below £7,400), Income Support, Income based Jobseeker Allowance, Employment & Support Allowance, Child Tax Credit, the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit or Working Tax Credit.

If you think you might be eligible for this, please see Liz or Sam in the office for a form to complete.

Dates for your diaries



We will be having a Harvest collection for Windsor Foodshare from Monday 6th October until Friday 17th October. Please bring any non-perishable food items that you are happy to donate.

Thursday 23rd October 2025 - Term ends (normal session times)

Friday 24th October 2025 - Staff training day, Nursery is closed

Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October - October holiday

Monday 3rd November - Staff training day. Nursery closed

Tuesday 4th November - All children return to Nursery

Wednesday 19th November - Come and Play session. More details to follow.

Wednesday 3rd December - Shooting Star theatre company perform 'Search for Santa!'

Friday 19th December - Term ends at 11:45am

Speech Technique Suggestion

Be Positive

Try to use "NO!" less often and instead use a positive phrase that gives your child an alternative way of behaving.

For example, "No running" can be changed to "Please show me wonderful walking".

If your child is doing something that you don't want them to do say, "please stop" or "finish please". Say, "Thank you" if they follow the request.

It is very important to use please and thank you to model politeness.

Book Recommendation

A book that we will be using regularly at Nursery is called 'Ruby's Worry' by Tom Percival.

It is a brilliant book to help children share their worries and start to identify and talk about their feelings. As our children settle at Nursery they will experience a range of emotions and this is the perfect story to encourage them to talk.

In our library area we have some soft 'worries' like the ones in the book, which the children can hold, in a calm quiet area with an adult to support them if they need. We will support children to talk about how they feel and find the vocabulary to describe their emotions.



Lunch and Snacks

We teach the children about staying healthy through eating well, playing outside, washing our bodies, brushing our teeth and going to bed!

Thank you for all your fruit and vegetables that you give us for snack time.

Thank you also for making the children's packed lunches healthy. It's best not to overfill their lunch boxes as this can be a bit overwhelming. Please remember to cut grapes and cherry tomatoes as these are a potential choking hazard.



Please only put water in water bottles rather than juice.

ALLERGIES — Some children suffer from a severe nut allergy and we need all parents/carers to assist in keeping them safe. Please make sure that your child's lunch box **DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY NUT PRODUCTS**. Thank you.

The Lawns Nursery Team

- Mrs. Sarah Cottle is the Executive Headteacher across all three Nursery Schools. Mrs. Cottle splits her time between Cookham Nursery School, Maidenhead Nursery School and The Lawns Nursery School
- Erin Hare is the Deputy Headteacher and will be supporting all of the staff and children in the Nursery.
- Sarah Jones and Estela Amieva are the co-key people for Dragonfly group.
- Christina King and Alex Smith are the co-key people for Caterpillar group.
- Beatrice Bradford and Shona Stevenson are the co-key people for Bumblebee group.
- Becky Flavelle is the key person for Ladybird group.
- Kam Saggi is the key person for Butterfly group.
- Georgia Payne-Adler, Linda McFarlane, Mandy Hann, Berni Coker, Pilar Infante, Mariam Bluck, Sara Spires, Immy Strachan and Naomi Boshier help to support all children.
- Liz Lofts and Sam Donaldson work in the school office.
- Sabine Levault, Ree Lloyd and Viviane Callaway support the children at lunchtime.

Communication With Parents

In order to keep you informed of upcoming events in Nursery we email half-termly newsletters and the weekly update (which are also added to our website). Please check your emails regularly and let us know if your email address changes.

We are happy to chat to parents at any time but it can be difficult at drop off and pick up times as we are with the children. Please do pass on quick messages but if you want a longer chat please ask and we can arrange a time.

We will also organise a time to discuss your child's progress and share their learning with you each term. We really value our home-school links with parents so will be attaching an information sheet on how we will be informing you of your child's learning at Nursery.

Ideas to Support your Child's Learning at Home

We are often asked by parents for advice on how to support their child's learning at home. Ways in which learning can be supported on an on-going basis include: -

*Sharing books at every opportunity and having lots of great conversations with your child.

*Encourage your child to develop their gross motor skills including, climbing, jumping and balancing. Support your child to develop their fine motor skills by encouraging them to use toys and tools that help to develop their hand-eye co-ordination and control. Examples include small threading beads, small lego, lacing/sewing cards, using tweezers to pick up small objects, cutting with scissors and appropriate cooking utensils.

*At Nursery we have been exploring pattern and making connections through learning number rhymes, the daily sequence, sorting and having lots of opportunities to interact with new resources. The team are supporting the children to 'have a go,' and talk about what they notice. Ask your child to share some of the new rhymes that they have learnt at home. Look for patterns in the natural world and talk to your child about size, shape and colour. Try using language such as 'same and different', 'first and then', and descriptive vocabulary to describe what they are pointing out.

*Young children have a remarkable skill: they can recognise numbers of things without counting. This is called subitising, and it develops from a very early age.

Children's ability to subitise is developed by teaching, when adults support children to begin to see pattern in number.

To start with, we work on subitising up to 3. We make sure that objects we use are all the same size, shape and colour so that the maths is much easier to see. We don't count, we 'see the amount' and we talk about what is '3 and not 3.' We ask children 'what do you see' instead of 'how many?'

Ask your child 'what do you see?' when you are out and about, or looking at picture books etc. Maths starts with noticing - and this is also a great way for children to build their vocabulary.

Please talk to your child's key person if you have any questions.

