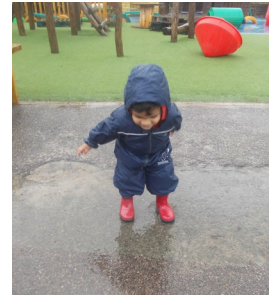


Maidenhead Nursery School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2025

Most of our new families have now started with us and the children are settling well. They are learning the routines and enjoying exploring the stimulating indoor and outdoor environments.

We have enjoyed a wide variety of weather since we started back in September. We have been splashing in puddles in the rain, dancing with scarves in the wind, looking up to identify the different shaped clouds and enjoying the warmth of the hot and sunny days.



This has been an excellent reminder that we spend time outside every day (whatever the weather). Please be mindful of this when dressing your children for a day at nursery. We recommended layers that children can remove when inside in the warm heated building. Please bring a named, waterproof coat with a hood every day.

Next week We will continue to name our emotions as we learn more about the zones of regulation. The number 3 will be our focus (more information about how we teach number on page 3). Jo, our persona doll, will be coming in to tell us about visiting the library then our children will have the chance to choose a book from our nursery library. Each week on Wednesday moving forward they can change their book with our governor Karen so make sure they bring their book back. **Key words for next week - three, frustrated, library, hear, family.**

Extra Sessions Available Now!

Did you know we offer Early Drop and Afternoon Top Up sessions?

8.15am Early Drop = £5

2.45-3.30pm Afternoon Top Up = £7.50



There are only limited spaces so to guarantee availability book as soon as possible.

Speak to Jan or Karen in the office for more information.

Reminders

- Please name all clothing. This helps us to return coats, jumpers and other items to their owners.
- Please ensure your child wears clothes that allow easy access to the toilet. Tracksuit bottoms or leggings are preferable to tighter skinny jeans.
- Please telephone the Nursery on the first day of absence (01628 623551) 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. If we do not hear from you then we will telephone to enquire why your child is absent.
- Please park considerably outside the nursery. Make sure not to block driveways as our neighbours need access at all times. Never park or even stop for a few minutes on the zig zag lines. Please do not park in the staff car park.



Footwear

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 support them to take off and put on their shoes independently. At nursery they have to change into wellies for the mud kitchen and remove their shoes when using the cabin so they will get many opportunities to practice here.

Some of the children have these elastic laces to make it easier to take their shoes on and off themselves—click on the photo to access a link to them.



No Mobiles



Please can we remind all parents and carers that we operate a no mobile phone policy within the Nursery. We operate this policy for safeguarding reasons and you will be asked to discontinue a call if you are using your phone in the Nursery. We also know how excited your children are to see you at the end of the day so without your phone you can give them your full attention.

Dates for your diaries

Thursday 23rd October - Last day of term. Nursery closes for half term.

Friday 24th October - INSET day

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

Monday 3rd November - INSET day

Tuesday 4th November - Term begins for children

Friday 14th November - Children in Need (Details to follow)



Speech Technique of the Month



September's speech technique is '**OWL**'.

This stands for; **O**bserve,
Wait,
Listen ...

THEN RESPOND IMMEDIATELY!

Food at Nursery

Lunch club -If your child stays for lunch club please ensure that their lunch box contents are as healthy as possible. We would ideally recommend a sandwich or a small container of a pasta, rice or couscous based dish, a yoghurt and some fruit, if lunch boxes are overfilled the children can be a bit overwhelmed by the choices presented. We are unable to heat food as we have no provision to do so.

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.

Snack times - We offer a choice of healthy snacks each day and milk and water to drink. Please bring in donations of fruit or vegetable such as a bag of apples/carrots every couple of weeks and place them in the basket under the notice board, thank you.



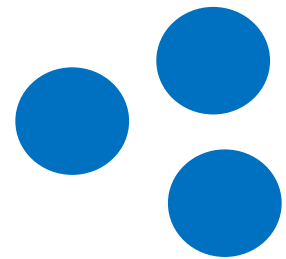
The Team at Nursery

- **Sarah** is the Executive Headteacher across all three Nursery Schools. She splits her time between Cookham Nursery School, Maidenhead Nursery School and The Lawns Nursery School.
- **Hannah** is the Deputy Headteacher and will be supporting all of the staff and children in the Nursery.
- **Áine** is the key person for Ladybird group.
- **Rachael** is the key person for Bumble bee group.
- **Bev** and **Tara** are the key people for Dragonfly group.
- **Kae** is the key person for Grasshopper group.
- **Nazeah** and **Laura** are the co-key people for Caterpillar group.
- **Ulfat, Gemma, Jade, Justyna and Laura** help to support all children.
- **Sacha** is SENco at Maidenhead Nursery School.
- **Jan** and **Karen** work in the school office.
- **Louise** and **Nusrat** support the children at lunch club.

Subitising at Nursery

We wanted to explain about how we begin to teach children about numbers and counting at Maidenhead Nursery School.

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; children begin to see pattern in number and start to understand the concept of addition and subtraction.

To start with, we work on subitising up to 3. 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?'

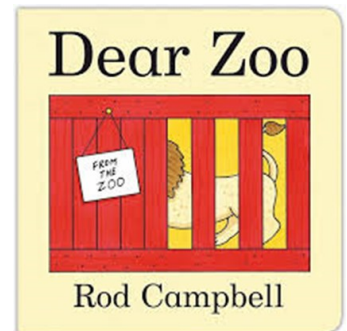
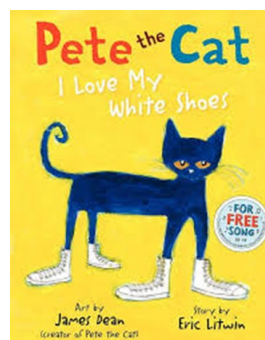
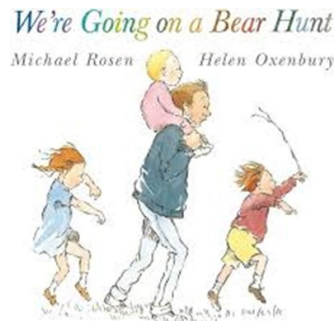
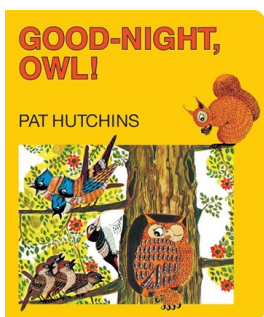
Ask children 'what do you see?' When you are out and about or looking at picture books etc. Maths starts with noticing – and this is also a great way for children to build their vocabulary.

Autumn Term Core Books

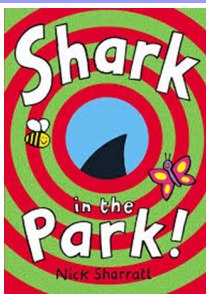
Each term we explore a selection of different 'core books'. These are the texts that we want our children to know well by the time they leave nursery. We select books so they can be re-visited again and again, on different levels to support language development.

We are all passionate about early reading and love books so have chosen some of our favourites that are fun, repetitive and full of rhyme and rhythm for the children to join in with. At the end of each session the children meet in their key group for an interactive story time so the children become immersed in the story, learning and having discussions about it.

The idea of our 'core books' is that children gain a love of books as well as developing their listening and language skills and increasing their vocabulary. They become so familiar with them that they remember and can re-tell them.



The books above are all simple texts full of repeating phrases that children can quickly learn and join in with. They introduce a variety of descriptive language and have wonderful illustrations to discuss.

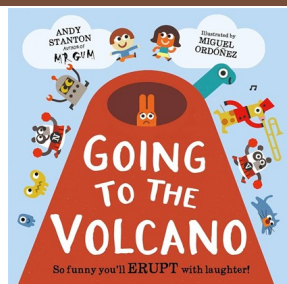


The call and response format means everyone can join in telling this funny story straight away.

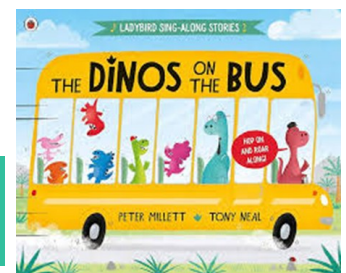


A reinvention of the song 'Wheels on the bus'. We can roar, stamp and clap along as we retell using familiar phrases.

A funny rhyming story where we can shout and join in with the repeated phrases!



JoJo and Gran Gran spend their days together enjoying exciting experiences.



A book full of diverse characters doing what they enjoy based around a myriad of colours.