



The Lawns Nursery School Newsletter Autumn 2

The Children's Learning

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn Term. We hope that you all had a super half term holiday break and have adjusted to the darker evenings. The children have learnt so much already since the break both inside and outside.

We celebrated Diwali together by exploring the festival through stories, looking at artefacts and hearing all about it. The children made their own Diya lamps from clay, developing their fine motor skills as they patiently added tiny beads to their creations. We hope those of you who celebrate Diwali had a peaceful and happy time.

One of our curriculum goals focusses on woodwork. This goal will continue throughout the year and the complexity of the models that the children make will increase as they become more experienced and confident at using the tools and thinking of ideas for their creations. This term all of our children have had an introduction to the area and a chance to explore the resources. We have been super impressed with their hand-eye control and enthusiasm. They have been developing their listening skills and learning about 'being safe' too!

To support our curriculum goal, 'To make up a story and act it out.' we have introduced the story 'The Gingerbread Man' to the children and they have been using the story line in their role play. We have been investigating and experimenting with some of the ingredients used in gingerbread and supporting the children to describe the changes that they see happening. This term we will continue to develop our story knowledge through Tales toolkit, introducing actions and Makaton signs to our story telling and making our own gingerbread!

Children in Need

Thank you to you all for your support in making the Children in Need pyjama party such a success and for your generous donations. The children have had a fantastic time dancing, sharing stories and drinking delicious hot chocolate, alongside learning about such a good cause.

We all had a wonderful day and raised an amazing

£192.65



School Applications

Online admissions is now open for children eligible to start school next September 2026

Closing date - **15th January 2026**

National Offer Day - 16th April 2026

Please click [here](#) for further information.

Our advice is to look around at the schools websites and make contact with the schools to see if they are doing any visits as this will give you a feel for the school that will 'fit' your child best. **In order to have more chance of getting the school at the top of your list make sure that you do not miss the application deadline.**

It is also important that parents/ carers complete all the choices when completing the form as this has an impact whether you are able to join a waiting list should you not be given your preferred choice.

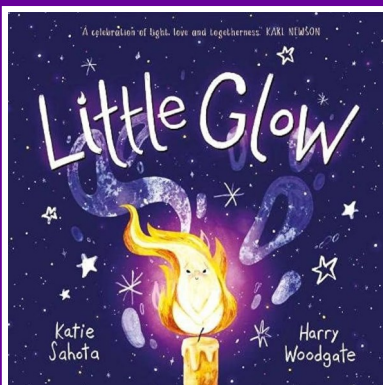
Please speak to Liz in the Office if you need any support with your application.

A Couple of Reminders

****Please call/ email into the school office if your child is not able to attend Nursery.**

****Keep encouraging your child to practice putting on their scarf, hat, gloves, wellies and coat independently and make sure that they come appropriately dressed for the weather. Please make sure you name all of these items clearly.**

Book Recommendation



Our book recommendation for this month is *Little Glow* by Katie Sahota and Harry Woodgate. *Little Glow* is a heartwarming, rhyming story about some of the different gatherings that celebrate light including, Diwali, Eid, Christmas, Hannukah and Bonfire night.

It is a celebration of diversity, inclusion and most of all the importance of finding moments to be together with our family and community.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 1st December - Christmas Hamper Raffle opens, £1 per ticket

Wednesday 3rd December - Christmas show -Shooting Star!

Wednesday 17th December - Christmas party in session time

Friday 19th December - Break up for the Christmas holidays. Nursery closes at 11.45am for the Christmas holidays

Monday 22nd December 2025 - Friday 2nd January 2026 - Christmas Holidays

Monday 5th January 2026 - Home visits, Nursery Closed

Tuesday 6th January 2026 - Nursery Visits, Nursery Closed

Wednesday 7th January 2026 - All children return to Nursery today (new children have staggered start dates)

Christmas Raffle

Every year at The Lawns Nursery School the staff team donate items to fill a children's and adult's Christmas hamper.



This is a lovely way to celebrate Christmas and all the money raised goes towards purchasing resources for the children to enjoy at Nursery.

Tickets will go on sale on Monday 1st December for £1 each and the raffle will be drawn on Monday 15th December at 1pm. If you are a lucky winner we will call you.

Car seat safety

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead found when carrying out recent car seat safety checks that 80% of seats were incorrectly fitted or that the child was in the wrong size seat for their height and weight. They have produced some useful guidance to help keep children safe and secure when travelling. Further support can be found online, please [CLICK HERE](#)

Toileting



This week, our community Nursery Nurse, Belinda Crocker led an important staff meeting with the updated advice they will be providing families around toilet training from now on.

The latest research shows it is better for your child's bladder and bowel health to stop using nappies between 18 and 30 months.

The [Eric website](#) suggests there are 40 different skills needing for 'potty learning' but below are some simple steps suggested by the Institute of Health Visiting.

Step 1 Practise sitting on the potty or toilet

Before you stop using nappies help your child feel confident and know what to do by getting them used to sitting on the potty or toilet. Add this into daily routines such as shortly after waking up, after eating or any time you see them start straining for a poo or hiding.

Allow time for your child to practise getting dressed and undressed so that they are able to independently pull down trousers and underwear before using the toilet.



Step 2 Stopping nappies

Choose a few quiet days at home to help get used to the change. Avoid times with big routine changes. Dress your child in clothes that are easy to get on and off so they can take the lead.

- For boys, start by sitting on the potty for wees as well as poos. This helps empty the bladder and prevent constipation
- Avoid asking too often. Instead wait for signs and gently say, "It's toilet time!" or "Let's get that wee (or poo) in the potty".

Step 3 Sticking with it

Be consistent. Stay home for a few quiet days when you first start using nappies. If you go out take the potty with you. If you are worried about accidents in the car put underwear on inside the nappy so they still feel the sensation of being wet.

- Expect accidents to happen as they learn—have spare clothes ready, clean up together and remind them about the potty. Stay calm and don't shame or punish.

- Night time - Some children stay dry during nighttime soon after becoming dry during daytime—others will wet after 5 years old. It is not your child's fault if they wet during sleep.

When to ask for help from nursery or your health visitor



1. If you feel unsure about how to start or what to do next
2. Your child has special educational needs and disabilities
3. Constipation or pain is making toilet training hard
4. Your child is afraid of the potty or toilet.
5. You are worried about toilet training.

More information available [click below](#)



[Berkshire Healthcare website](#)

