



Maidenhead Nursery School Newsletter November 2025

It has been a half term full of celebrations and special occasions as we have explored Diwali, Halloween and Fireworks night . Thank you to those of you who sent in photos of your celebrations and autumn activities - the children proudly talked with their friends and adults about what they had done.

We have been moving in different ways, developing our whole body; our shoulder, elbow and wrist pivots and strengthening our hand and finger muscles.

Next week we are starting Yoga, sharing the book , Good Morning Yoga, and attempting the different poses. As well as supporting our overall health these movements are getting us ready for writing. Our focus artist for this half term is Jackson Pollock who enjoyed making large marks by flicking and dripping paint and we have been inspired by him to make large art outside.



Jo, our persona doll, will be visiting us before she goes on holiday to see her family in Ghana. We will continue to look at similarities and differences between each other and using maps and globes to find out about places around the world. If you have family or friends in different countries please send us photos and with some details - we would love to share them.

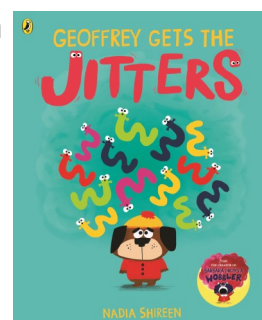
Focus Vocabulary next week- Imagination, worried, four, movement, holiday.

This week we said "Goodbye" to Laura (key person for caterpillar group). She has been a ray of sunshine at the nursery and the staff, children and families have benefitted from her kindness and expertise in early childhood education. She will be missed! Justyna will now work alongside Naz as caterpillar key people.

We have said "Hello" to Sophina this week who has come to us from Boyne Hill Primary School and will also be welcoming Niamh next week.

Book Recommendation

One of our core books for this term is Geoffrey gets the Jitters by Nadia Shireen. We will link it to the Zones of Regulation, identifying that Geoffrey is in the yellow zone as he is worried and anxious throughout his day. We will think about what we can do when we are feeling worried and introduce our 'Worry Teddy' (who eats our worries) and 'Worry Worms' (who we tell our worries to) as well as our calm baskets and resources.



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Crafts and Singing with families.

Friday 19th December - There is no lunch club or afternoon session today. Nursery closes at 11.45am for the Christmas holidays.

Monday 5th - Wednesday 7th - Home and nursery visits.

Thursday 8th January - Term starts for children.

Monday 16th to Friday 20th February - Half Term holidays.

Christmas craft and singing afternoon



Join us on Wednesday 17th December from 1.30 to enjoy some Christmas crafts and sing along with some Christmas songs at 2.30pm.

A Couple of Reminders



* **Please call/email into the school office if your child is not able to attend Nursery.** We know this is the time of year where children pick up bugs and germs and we currently have quite a few children off with chest infections, high temperatures and coughs. Please only bring your child to nursery if they are well enough to come in to prevent spreading these illnesses.

* Remember to make sure your child has a spare set of clothes to change into every day including socks, underwear, trousers, tops. As the weather gets wetter and muddier and children are more confident to explore the whole environment they may need to change clothes. Please provide a bag for wet or dirty clothes.

* If your child comes to nursery wearing wellies please bring spare shoes to change into.

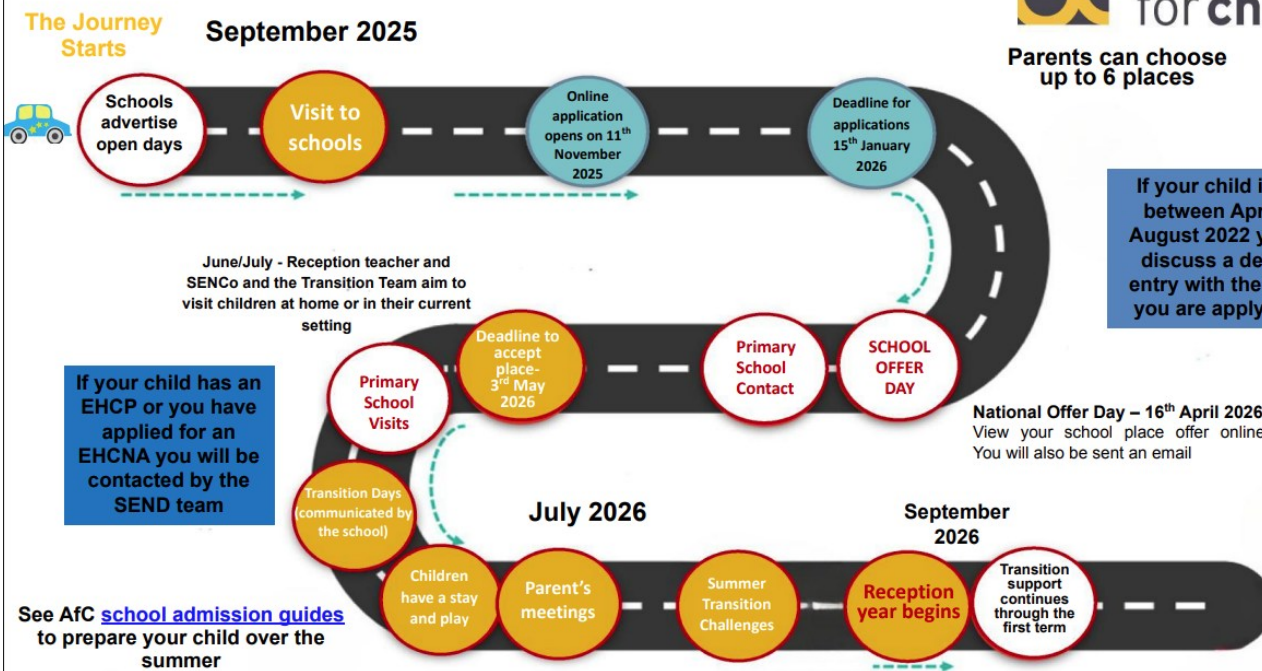
* The weather has suddenly turned extremely cold so please make sure to dress your child in layers. Outside your child will need a warm coat, hat and mittens but inside the heating is on so they may get too warm in thick clothes.

Transition to Primary School September 2026

For children born 1st September 2021- 31st August 2022



Parents can choose up to 6 places



School Applications

Online admissions is now open for children eligible to start school next September 2025. (Children born between 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022)

Closing date - 15th January 2026

National Offer Day - 16th April 2026

Our advice is to look 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.

N.B. When completing the application, you will be asked if your child currently attends a setting. Maidenhead Nursery School is not listed as an option and AfC have advised parents/carers should select the "Early Years Nursery or Pre-School Provision" option.



Please contact the office team if you would like any help.

Toileting



This week our health visitor, Susan Fenn, led an important staff meeting with 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](#)

