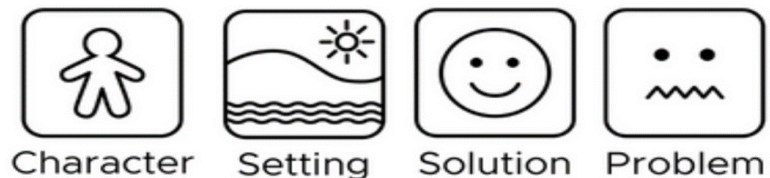


Our Children's Learning

We have been so impressed with how confidently the children have settled back into school life after the holiday. They slipped straight into our teaching and learning routines with enthusiasm and ease.

It has also been a pleasure to welcome new children and their families to The Lawns Nursery School. We are incredibly proud of how mature and resilient they have been as they begin this new chapter. Our existing children have shown such kindness and friendliness, helping their new peers feel comfortable and supported in their new environment.



The Tales Toolkit symbols

As you will have read about in our Weekly Updates, we've been learning about the story of the Three Bill Goats. The children have been retelling the story, acting it out and joining in with the repeated refrains. .

The photos above show the Tales Toolkit symbols we use, along with prompts designed to spark imagination and support the children as they develop their own storytelling ideas.

The Department of Education has declared this year the National Year of Reading. Recent surveys show reading for pleasure is at an all time low for children and young people and they have introduced this UK-wide campaign designed to inspire people to make reading a regular part of our lives.

[2026 Book Missions](#) is a fun calendar of challenges to complete from the Book Trust—click on the picture to link to the website.

The National Literacy Trust also have an amazing selection of videos and activities to promote a love of reading at home. Click on the icon to find out more.

Please can we ask that completed learning maps (with the voice of you and your child) are returned to your child’s key person. We love to keep these in the child’s learning journey to reflect on throughout the year.

2026 book missions

BookTrust
Getting children reading

January Read a book that makes you laugh! <input type="checkbox"/>	February Tell someone about a book you love <input type="checkbox"/>	March Join the World Book Day celebrations <input type="checkbox"/>
April Read a book because you love its pictures <input type="checkbox"/>	May Read a poetry book or a verse novel <input type="checkbox"/>	June It's a summer of sport! Read a sporty book <input type="checkbox"/>
July 7 July: A new Children's Laureate is here! Read one of their books <input type="checkbox"/>	August Read a book outside! What's the most unusual place you can find? <input type="checkbox"/>	September Send a letter or a drawing to your favourite author or illustrator <input type="checkbox"/>
October Read a scary book for Halloween! <input type="checkbox"/>	November Read a non-fiction book and tell a friend a cool fact <input type="checkbox"/>	December Swap your favourite book with your friends <input type="checkbox"/>

My favourite books of the year are...

Songs and Rhymes

Songs and rhymes are a key part of our curriculum as they build early language, memory, and social skills. We would recommend that parents and carers sing action rhymes and move to music regularly with their child. Benefits include:

- Healthy and strong relationships and increases feelings of well-being
- Develops attention and listening skills
- Understanding and expression of language
- Children learn the back and forth nature of conversations
- Finger rhymes improve fine motor strength and co-ordination
- Develop gross motor skills and when movements crossing the mid-line both sides of the brain work together to form new connections.
- Rhythm to develop math skills



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

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?



Dates for your diary

Friday 13th February - Break up for half term holidays

Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February - Nursery Closed - half term break

Monday 23rd February - All children return to Nursery

Wednesday 4th March - Parents invited to 'Come and Read' to celebrate World Book Day (*Thursday 5th March*). More details to follow

Friday 27th March - Break up for the Easter holidays.

Nursery closes at 11.45am today.



Reminders

- Please remember to name your child's clothes, coats, gloves and hats.
- Please remember to let us know on the first day of absence if your child is too unwell to attend Nursery.
- Remember absolutely no nuts in lunches due to allergies. Please be aware that there is often nuts in biscuits, chocolate spread and other similar products.
- Mobile phones cannot be used in the nursery garden or building. This is not only for safeguarding reasons—to protect the safety of all of our children but also to make sure your child has your full attention as you are saying "Goodbye" or "Hello".
- We advise water only in bottles—no squash please.
- Please ensure that you pick up promptly at the end of the sessions. Late pick ups impact the staff time to be ready for the next sessions or to go home at the end of their working day.

