

The Lea Nursery School

Wexham Road, Slough, Berks SL2 5JW

Tel: 01753 536492 Fax: 01753 821798

e-mail: post@lea-nursery.slough.sch.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers





Welcome

This term we have welcomed several new children and families to Lea Nursery School. We hope your child will be very happy at Lea. We love to have families involved in the Nursery so please do feel free to join our parent groups, celebrations and other events. If you ever have any concerns about anything then please feel free to speak to me or your child's keyworker.

Shopping and baking

So far this term the Pandas and the Lions have had a turn to go on a local outing to buy ingredients for baking. They have continued to bake using those ingredients. We have copies of the recipes available so please make sure you get your copy and keep the learning going by baking with your child at home.

Here are the dates for the other key groups shopping and baking experience.

Leopards		Week beginning the 5 th of February.
Kangaroos		Week beginning the 19 th of February.
Tigers		Week beginning the 26 th of February.
Butterflies		Week beginning the 5 th of March.



We need help from parents on the shopping days- please make yourself available if possible.

Dads' in School Day

We would like to invite all dads to come and spend time in Nursery on **Friday the 9th of February**. For many dads this is a working day but we'd like to invite you to come at any time during this day. You're welcome to stay for the whole session but you are also welcome to just pop in and spend 15 minutes with your child. Mr Tony (who does football with the children) will be in on the day so wear your football boots and do come and join us!

Mums' in School Day

Last year a few mums raised the point that we always had a "dads' in school day" but we'd never had a "mums' in school day". This year we've planned it in! So all mums please come and join our "mums' in school day" on **Friday the 9th of March**. We'll send out more details closer to the time, but please do plan on joining us.

Half Term

We break up for half term on **Friday the 9th of February**. Nursery re-opens on **Monday the 19th of February**.

Our Nursery Garden

In the next month or two we will be having some of the grass area in the garden replaced with safety surface. This should provide a better surface for climbing equipment and will also reduce the mud in the garden. While the works are being carried out children's access to the garden will be limited and we might ask you to use another route at drop off and collection time. We will keep you posted when we get the final date for the works to take place.

The Library

Thank you to all of the parents who are now regularly using the Library with your child/children. If your child does not yet have a library card please get the form from Reception and fill it in as soon as possible.

School Governors

We need a new Parent Governor. The School Governing Body are a group of volunteers who help to make decisions about all aspects of the school. You don't need any special qualifications or teaching experience to be a School Governor. The most important qualities in a School Governor are enthusiasm, commitment and an interest in education. School Governors meet at least once a term and there is also a commitment to helping on one or two sub-committees. These sub-committees cover different areas like finance, buildings and curriculum. **If you are interested in being a governor please talk to me or Chantal August at Reception.** The deadline for applications is Friday 9th of February.

Late Arrivals

I appreciate that the car park (especially in the mornings) can be a challenge, but please try to bring your child on time each day. The gate remains open until 8:50 every morning and until 12:30pm in the afternoon. Once the gate is closed children are marked as being late on the register- this has an impact on their attendance. Children often find it more challenging to settle in if they arrive late, they also miss out on important learning time.

Early Collections

Please avoid collecting your child early wherever possible. When children are collected early they miss out on the end of session group time- this is an important part of their learning.

Please note that children cannot be collected during story times (even if they have a 30 hour place.) This means from 11:10-11:30 in the morning and 2:50- 3:10 in the afternoon you will be unable to collect your child from Reception. During these times all adults are busy working with groups of children and there are no adults available to walk them to Reception.

Admission to Reception

If your child will reach the age of five between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018, you should have applied for a Primary School place for him/her by the 15th of January. **If you haven't done this please see Chantal August or myself.** It is important you do this, otherwise your child may not get a school place in September.

You will hear which school your child has been allocated on the 16th of April 2018.

Parent Groups

The dates, times and topic for the Spring Term parent groups are as follows:

Date	Time	Topic
Wednesday 21 st February	8:45am or 12:30pm	E-Safety (This is vital if you allow your child to use your phone or tablet.)
Tuesday 13 th of March	8:45am or 12:30pm	Maths learning at Nursery
Wednesday 21 st March	8:45am or 12:30pm	Sharing a story with your child.

Learning through real experiences

This term children have had many valuable learning experiences, including opportunities to learn through real experiences. You might have noticed our new woodwork bench outside. We have been offering all children the opportunity to use woodworking tools. There are clear safety guidelines which adults rigorously reinforce around the use of the equipment, but most children respond to the real tools with a real sense of responsibility. Children have had opportunities to use hammers, saws, screwdrivers and tape measures.



Earlier in January we offered children the opportunity to experience fire. Again, safety guidelines were rigorously reinforced and most children responded very well to these, showing a real awareness of the danger that fire can pose. It was wonderful to witness their awe and wonder over aspects of the fire like the flames, the smoke and the crackling that the fire made.



Please keep reinforcing this learning by talking to your child and offering your child **safe** opportunities to participate when you light barbeques or when you pull out your own tools to do DIY.

Term Dates

Spring 2018

Term starts on: Thursday 4th January 2018

Term ends on: Friday 9th February 2018

February Holiday: Monday 12th February 2018 to Friday 16th February 2018

Term starts on: Monday 19th February 2018

Term ends on: Thursday 29th March 2018

Spring Holiday: Friday 30th March 2018 to Monday 16th April 2018

Summer 2018

Term starts on: Tuesday 17th April 2018

Term ends on: Friday 25th May 2018

May Holiday: Monday 28th May 2018 to Friday 1st June 2018

Term starts on: Monday 4th June 2018

Term ends on: Tuesday 24th July 2018

Reporting Absence

If your child is absent please report it in one of the following 3 ways:

- Phone the Nursery on **01753 536492**
- Text the Nursery on the following number **078 6003 4214**
- E-mail the Nursery using the address post@lea-nursery.slough.sch.uk

If your child is absent and you receive a text please either reply to this text, phone or e-mail to let us know why your child is away.

Odd's Farm

We have planned trips to Odd's Farm on the following dates:

Thursday 19th of April

Tuesday 1st of May



The Nursery will be open as normal for children who aren't going on the trip. Due to the age of the children we rely heavily on parents to accompany children on trips. There are only 8 places available for unaccompanied children on each of these days. We may be able to accommodate some younger siblings, but only if they are old enough to travel on the coach without a car seat. The unaccompanied places will be offered according to the following priority:

- Families where both parents work (and in the case of single parents, the single parent works.)
- Parents who are doing a course and have to attend college, university or other educational setting on that day.
- Parents who have a younger child who is unable to go along due to car seat requirements.

We will be travelling to the farm by coach and will leave Lea Nursery at approximately 9:30am and return at approximately 3pm.

There is a café available at Odds Farm if you wish to purchase food, however the easiest option is to bring a packed lunch. There are plenty of picnic spots available.

The cost of the trip (which includes the cost of the coach and the price of entrance to Odd's Farm) is as follows:

£25 for one adult and one child.

£15 for an unaccompanied child.

If you are unable to afford the cost of the trip but would like to attend please do come and talk to me about it.

If you would like to attend with your child, please complete the attached form and return it (with payment) to Reception. There are 70 places on each day and places will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

Odd's Farm Trip



Child's Name: _____ **Key Group:** _____

Please indicate the option that applies:

I would like to accompany my child to Odd's Farm (£25)

I would like my child to go to Odd's Farm with a Nursery adult (£15) (Please indicate the reason why below)

Please indicate the day you would like to go:

Thursday 19th of April

Tuesday 1st of May