



Oakengates Nursery School

Newsletter

Summer Term: Week 3



Dear Parents,

It's been an exciting week in nursery! We introduced the pre-school children to woodwork with hammers and nails and this has been a wonderful way for them to develop their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination, while also sparking their creativity and problem-solving abilities.

We also planted beans in the spring time like 'Jack' from 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and watching them grow has been fascinating, as it provides a hands-on experience of nature and the life cycle of plants.

As we approach the last week before half term, please note we have a planned PD day on Friday 23rd May. This means the nursery will only be open to children with a full-year place.

I'm looking forward to enjoying the rest of the summer term and preparing our pre-school children for the transition to 'big school'.

Kind Regards,

Hannah Firmstone

Early Years Lead & SENCo



IMPORTANT NEWS

Farewell and Good Luck to Haley!

We'll soon be saying goodbye and good luck to Haley as she moves on to pastures new.

We'll miss her greatly and wish her all the best in her new adventure!

Haley's key children will continue working with familiar adults in Preschool, ensuring consistency and support.

We're currently in the process of recruiting a new team member and will keep you updated as things progress.

Haley's last day at Oakengates Nursery
will be
on
Thursday 22nd May.

GOOD LUCK ★ GOOD LUCK

Goodbye

Dear Parent/Carer,

We all wish for children to have a great start in life and for them to take part in fun, fulfilling experiences.

As their parent or carer, you do a brilliant job supporting your child to learn and grow during those early years which also helps them prepare for school.

Their development is important to us too and that's why we've created 5 by 5.

5 by 5 sets out a range of adventures to explore with your child before the age of five to help them be happy, healthy and active.

The adventures are grouped into five themes and are designed to support your child to develop and grow, find their voice, make friends, be curious and creative and build connections with the world around them.

We suspect that you have already tried some of the adventures with your child, but why not see if you can do them all.

Many are no or low cost and can be done in and around the home or at venues across Telford and Wrekin, including libraries, parks and community groups.

We'll be working closely too with early years providers, schools, community providers, local charities, Family Hubs, and health providers as we roll out the scheme.

For further information visit 5by5.telford.gov.uk where you can view the full list of adventures and track your child's progress with a downloadable 5 by 5 adventure card.

We hope you will enjoy taking part as a family!



Councillor Lee Carter
Leader, Telford & Wrekin Council



Councillor Shirley Reynolds
Cabinet Member for Children,
Young People, Education,
Employment and Skills



5BY5 CHECKLIST
Tick them off as you go

The adventures will support your child's growth, development and confidence to help them start school.
How many have you already tried?
How many more can you do?

Develop and grow	Find my voice
<input type="checkbox"/> Eat a rainbow <input type="checkbox"/> Splash in a swimming pool <input type="checkbox"/> Stamp and scrunch the autumn leaves <input type="checkbox"/> Grow your own food <input type="checkbox"/> Walk/hop/skip or run across the Ironbridge <input type="checkbox"/> Put on own shoes and coats <input type="checkbox"/> Use a potty or toilet independently <input type="checkbox"/> Eat with utensils <input type="checkbox"/> Learn to brush teeth with supervision <input type="checkbox"/> Visit the town park and use the equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Share a book and listen to stories <input type="checkbox"/> Go to Bounce and Rhyme and join the library <input type="checkbox"/> Listen to nursery rhyme and sing a song <input type="checkbox"/> Explore the sounds that musical instruments make <input type="checkbox"/> Join my friends in the role play area <input type="checkbox"/> Play peek-a-boo <input type="checkbox"/> Blow bubbles and catch them <input type="checkbox"/> Feed the ducks <input type="checkbox"/> Teddy bears picnic
Make friends	Being curious and creative
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit a toddler or community group <input type="checkbox"/> Go to pre-school <input type="checkbox"/> Play hide and seek <input type="checkbox"/> Go on a board game with friends <input type="checkbox"/> Talk to the baby/toddler in the mirror <input type="checkbox"/> Draw a picture of your friends <input type="checkbox"/> Play circle games <input type="checkbox"/> Build a den <input type="checkbox"/> Attend an event in the community	<input type="checkbox"/> Ride on a bus or train or both <input type="checkbox"/> Exploring paint <input type="checkbox"/> Play a musical instrument <input type="checkbox"/> Get messy with arts and crafts <input type="checkbox"/> Build a sandcastle <input type="checkbox"/> Lay on the ground and watch the clouds sail by <input type="checkbox"/> Dance and sing to music <input type="checkbox"/> Take a torch and walk when it's dark outside <input type="checkbox"/> Blow a dandelion and make a wish <input type="checkbox"/> Play with playdough
Building connections	
<input type="checkbox"/> Count to five <input type="checkbox"/> Draw with a pencil <input type="checkbox"/> Look for letters and numbers on signs in the community <input type="checkbox"/> Write out a card for family or friends <input type="checkbox"/> Choose a recipe and bake it with a grown up	<input type="checkbox"/> Make a shopping list and go shopping <input type="checkbox"/> Go on a bug hunt <input type="checkbox"/> Plant a sunflower and see how tall it grows <input type="checkbox"/> Make a snowman <input type="checkbox"/> Walk in the woods





SUN PROTECTION ADVICE

Children's skin is much more sensitive than adult skin, and damage caused by repeated exposure to sunlight could lead to skin cancer developing in later life.

The NHS recommend that children should:

Cover up with suitable clothing
(shoulders and neck covered)

Apply sunscreen to areas not protected by clothing, such as the face, ears, feet and backs of hands.

Wear **at least** SPF30 sunscreen (we recommend SPF 50)

Our policy at nursery is that children must wear suncream and wear a hat to keep them safe in the hot and sunny weather.

PLEASE PROVIDE A NAMED HAT FOR YOUR CHILD.

If your child attends a morning or afternoon session only, please apply suncream before they arrive.

If your child is at nursery all day please apply suncream before they arrive and provide a named bottle of suncream so that we can reapply after lunch.





KEY DATES



Date	Event
Friday 23rd May	PD Day
Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May	Half Term
Friday 13th June	Graduation Photos (for children starting school in September)
Thursday 19th & Friday 20th June	Fun Sports Day
Monday 30th June - Thursday 11th July	Stay and Play (details to follow)
Friday 18th July	End Of Term
Monday 21st July	PD Day



SOCIAL MEDIA

Click on the image to access our facebook page



Your Child's Learning

Don't forget to check out our website to find out about all the exciting things the children have been learning about this week:



Admin Office Opening Hours

The office operates from Monday to Thursday, with opening hours from 7:30 AM to 3:45 PM.

On Fridays, the office closes earlier, at 1:00 PM.

Should you need assistance or have any inquiries outside of these hours, you can call the out-of-hours phone on **07340 751171**.

This ensures that support or urgent matters can be attended to even when the office is closed.





FAMILY SUPPORT



Please see below for an exciting update from the Telford Children's Autism Hub!



Telford Children's Autism Hub

We are thrilled to announce that we have received extra funding, allowing the Hub to extend its services.

We are now able to provide valuable information, advice, and support to families who are at the pre-diagnosis stage and are on the pathway awaiting an Autism assessment.

Our Children's Autism Hub is open to all children and young people aged 0-18 years and their families, who have a diagnosis of Autism or are on the pre-diagnosis pathway for Autism. To access our Children's Autism Hub you need to be a resident of Telford and Wrekin.

For more information, please go to our website : [About Children's Autism Hub | Telford Autism Hub](#)

[Read more on our pre-diagnosis offer](#)

[SEND Newsletter Information - Feb/Mar](#)



Follow the link below to access more information and the SEND family newsletter:

[SEND Family Newsletter March 2025 - SEND - Local offer](#)



FAMILY SUPPORT



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough



Telford and Wrekin

FAMILY HUBS

**"We only argue
when the kids
are in bed"**

Are you worried about how much you argue with your partner/ex?

You don't need to weather the storm alone.

To find out more about the support Telford & Wrekin Council
can offer you please visit our website

www.telford.gov.uk/familyhubs



SCAN ME



FAMILY SUPPORT



**Final reminder to working parents:
Apply for your childcare code to use the support
from April**



In the beautiful chaos of parenthood, balance is everything. Childcare Choices is here to help you find the support that fits your family, giving your child a great start and you the choices you need.

If you're an eligible working parent in England, you can [apply for your code online on GOV.UK](#) for:

- Up to [15 hours childcare](#) per week for your child between 9 months until they turn 3 years old, over 38 weeks of the year.
- Up to [30 hours childcare](#) per week for your 3 or 4 year old, over 38 weeks of the year.

The deadline to apply for a code is 31 March to use the support from April. You will then need to reconfirm your code every 3 months on your GOV.UK account.

Make sure you apply as early as possible and speak to your provider to find out more about their arrangements.

**Click here to apply for 15 or 30 hours childcare
for working families**



FAMILY SUPPORT



**Check out the Better Health,
Healthier families website!**



This useful website has food facts,
recipes, activities and information of
children's weight.

**[HTTPS://WWW.NHS.UK/HEALTHIER-
FAMILIES/](https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/)**

**Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin
Dental Advice Line**

Do you have an
urgent dental
problem or need
dental advice?

Are you looking
for an NHS
dentist for
routine care?

Monday to Friday
0800-2100

01743 237916

Shropshire Community Health **NHS**

**Telford Public Health Nursing
Service
Healthy you, Healthy Future**

Telephone Number
0333 358 3328

Text 07520 619 053

School nurse 07520 619 051

Follow on twitter

@ShropPHNurse

Open 9am-4.30pm
excluding bank holidays



Parents Opening Doors
'Together we can make a difference'
<https://www.podstelford.org/>



Telford and Wrekin

FAMILY HUBS

Right help at the right time

Did you know that 'The Oak Family Hub' is located at The Wakes and
offers free help and support to residents who are navigating their way
through parenting?





Are you or your partner expecting a baby or have a child under two?

**You can access support, information and
guidance from our team !**

We can help with a wide range of topics such as:

- **Finances**
- **Childcare**
- **Emotional Wellbeing**
- **Mental Health**
- **Activities and Support**
- **Social Isolation**
- **Relationships**
- **Confidence building**

**For more information from the Social Prescribing Team
please call 07434 869248
or email perinatal@telford-mind.co.uk**