



Newsletter

09 February 2024

Oakengates Nursery School

www.oakengatesnurseryschool.co.uk

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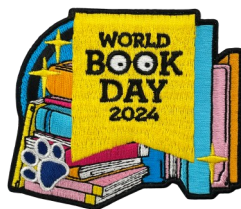
01952 387910

World Book Day Thursday 7 March 2024

Oakengates Nursery School will be taking part in world book day on Thursday 7 March.

This event is an annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and the joy of reading.

We are inviting children and staff to come to nursery on this special day as their favourite story book character.



Half Term

Nursery is closed to **ALL** term time only daycare and funded children.

Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February.



Spring Term 2024

Tuesday 9th January to Friday 22nd March

Half term—Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February

Easter Holiday—Monday 25th March to Friday 5th April
PD day Monday 8th April

Summer Term 2024

Tuesday 9th April to Friday 19th July

Half term—Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

PD day Monday 3rd June

Please go to our website to access all term dates for the academic year 2023-2024

<https://www.oakengatesnurseryschool.co.uk/media/46119/term-dates-2023-2024.pdf>

Nursery closure to all children

Friday 29th March & Monday 1st April
Monday 6th May & Monday 27th May.

Scroll down to page 5 to find out top tips on how to keep under 5s safe online.



Are you eligible for 30 hours funding? Go to:
<https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

Do you already have a preschool child with 30 hours funding?

Don't forget you have to confirm your details are up to date every 3 months.

This term, our theme in nursery is called:

Let's Pretend



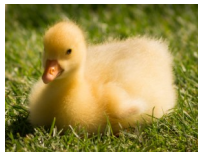
Toddler Room

After half term in the Toddler room we will be exploring our new theme
"Let's pretend to be farmers".

We will be sharing the story "The Ugly Duckling" where we will be using the Makaton signs for "happy and sad" to talk about how the duckling feels.

We will be using yellow playdough and other resources to create our own ducklings. In the construction area we will be naming the farm animals and creating homes for them.

On the mark making table we will be learning to make meaning to our marks and how to hold the pencil. Our nursery rhyme of the week is
"Old McDonald had a Farm".



Preschool Room

After half term we will continue with our new theme of
'Let's Be Farmers'.

We will be learning about the life cycle of a duck and looking forward to a very special delivery of our own at the beginning of March!

In the playdough we will be exploring farm animals and the marks they make in the dough.

On Friday we will be celebrating Dragobete, the Romanian Festival of love and spring with spring blossom art work and painting on the easel with pink and red paint.

Our rhyme of the week is:
"Old McDonald had a Farm".

Due to the continuing cold weather, please send your child to nursery with a warm coat, hat, gloves and scarf.

PLEASE NAME CLOTHING TO HELP US MAKE SURE THAT THEY RETURN HOME WITH THE CORRECT OWNER!

Baby Room

Next week in the Baby room our theme is let's pretend to be farmers

We will be learning about the colour, texture, and movement and giving opportunities for children to choose two colours to explore.

Our messy play this week we will damp sand on a tray, using the animals to walk through the sand looking at the prints they have made.

Outside we will be using the ramps for the cars and tractors to go up and down. Whilst singing 'driving along on my big green tractor'.

Our nursery rhyme of the week is 5 little ducks and old McDonald had a farm



Nursery Rhymes of the week

Click on the image to access the song.



Other Useful Information

Do you know about the Telford and Wrekin Family Hubs?

Family hubs are a place virtually or in your own community that provide signposting and support for parents and children.



Right help at the right time

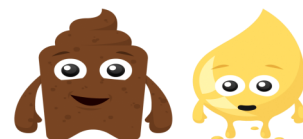
Click on the link to access the website and find out more

https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20087/healthy_telford/6640/best_start_for_life_-_family_hubs



ERIC – the children's bowel and bladder charity are hosting online parent/carer workshops over the next month via webinars.

Click [here](#) or on the image below to access the website to signup



Some topics include:

- ♦ How to tackle potty and toilet avoidance
- ♦ How to help your child relax for toilet sits
- ♦ How to go about toilet training when your child has additional needs
- ♦ How to manage your child's

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

Telford Public Health Nursing Service



Healthy you, Healthy Future

Telephone Number 0333 358 3328

Text 07520 619 053

School nurse 07520 619 051

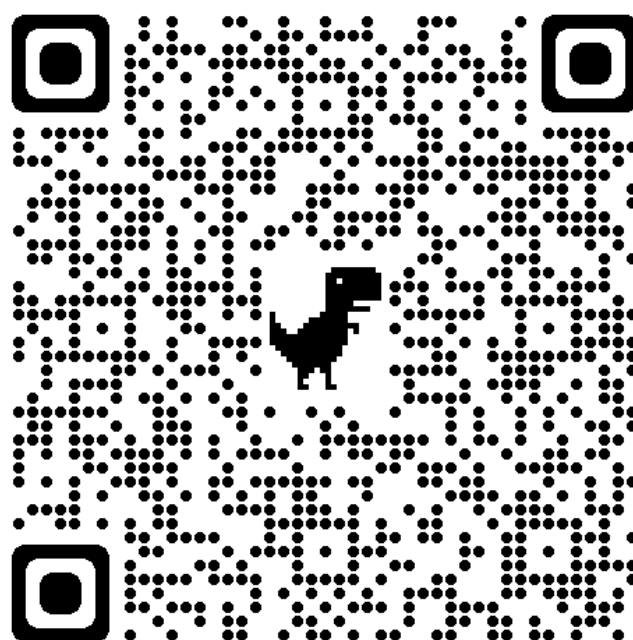
Follow on twitter

@ShropPHNurse Open 9am-4.30pm
excluding bank holidays

Do you know what to expect in the Early Years Foundation Stage?



Use the QR code below to access a guide for parents



ONLINE SAFETY FOR UNDER 5s

10 Top Tips for Parents and Carers

According to Ofcom's most recent research, a significant proportion of children are already online by the time they start school, with 17% of 5-year-olds owning their own mobile phone and 50% using messaging platforms. As becoming familiar with technology is generally encouraged in younger children – and has been essential for education during the pandemic – it is crucial that trusted adults recognise both the benefits and the risks of infants and toddlers using digital devices. We've compiled our top tips to help the under-5s start their online safety journey.

1 USE DEVICES TOGETHER

This lets you monitor and control what your child is using the device for. It also provides the interaction that supports children's understanding of what they're seeing – allowing them to ask you questions, and so on.

PARENT CODE:

6 BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

If your child uses a device that's linked to a payment method (such as a bank card), use the parental controls to block buys from app stores, as well as in-app purchases. That will prevent your child from accidentally spending money while on your device.

2 ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most digital devices have built-in parental controls that can limit the type of content children have access to. If your little one uses any device (even borrowing yours), it's a good idea to explore what controls the device has and enable them whenever they have access to it.

7 CHOOSE SAFE APPS AND SITES

There are some fantastic apps and platforms that are specifically designed to be safer for children. Always check the PEGI age rating before downloading an app, and test it yourself before allowing your child to use it.

3 MANAGE SCREEN TIME

This can be tricky, especially if your child is interested in a certain video, app or game. Try to agree on some ground rules and get your child into a routine which includes certain times of the day when they go without devices.

8 INVOLVE THE FAMILY

If your toddler has older siblings, it's likely that *their* rules for device use will be different – and that they'll access content that isn't appropriate for younger ones (a particular worry if they share devices). Encourage the whole family to be good role models and help little ones stay safe online.

4 TALK ABOUT BEING SAFE ONLINE

Just like we teach children about being safe in the real world, we need to educate them about how to stay safe online. Use age-appropriate language to help them understand, and plenty of hand gestures can reinforce what you're telling them.

9 IF IN DOUBT, ASK

The easiest way to find out what your child is doing online is usually just to talk about it with them. Developing an open dialogue at an early age helps them grow up feeling able to talk to you about their digital life – providing opportunities to intervene if you're concerned.

5 SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

Children often learn by watching and copying those around them, and using digital devices is no exception. When you're around your child, try to follow the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you balancing your time online with interacting with people in real life, too.

10 SUPPORT CREATIVE & ACTIVE PLAY

Physical and creative activities are important for a child's wellbeing, and there are plenty of ways to incorporate technology into that. For example, you could encourage games that require physical movement; dance and sing along to songs your child loves; and follow step-by-step crafting videos.

Meet Our Expert

Konstantina Moustaka is a professional development and EYFS coordinator at an 'outstanding' nursery school in London. She has been working as a nursery and early years practitioner, both in the UK and internationally, for the past 16 years.



National
Online
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0024/234809/childrens-media-use-and-attitudes-report-2022.pdf



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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