

SUMMER NEWS

SUMMER 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reflect on the past few weeks, I want to take a moment to sincerely thank you all for your continued support and understanding during our recent room changes and staff transitions. Your patience and encouragement have meant so much to us.

We were very excited to make these changes, and it's been wonderful to see the positive impact on the children. Our Pre-Schoolers are absolutely thriving in their new, larger space upstairs. Being able to split into two rooms has given them even more opportunities for focused learning and exploration.

Meanwhile, our Toddlers love their spacious new environment and enjoy much easier access to the garden, which has enhanced their outdoor play and learning experiences!

Thank you also for the lovely reviews many of you have left on DayNurseries.co.uk. Your kind words truly mean the world to us. If you haven't yet left a review and would like to, please speak to a member of staff—we'd be happy to provide you with a review card.

A few friendly reminders:

- Please remember to send your child in with a sun hat.
- Dress them in weather-appropriate clothing, and pack extras just in case!

Thank you once again for being such a supportive part of our nursery community. We're looking forward to a fun and sunny term ahead!

Vicki

Dates for your diary

Holidays and Closures:

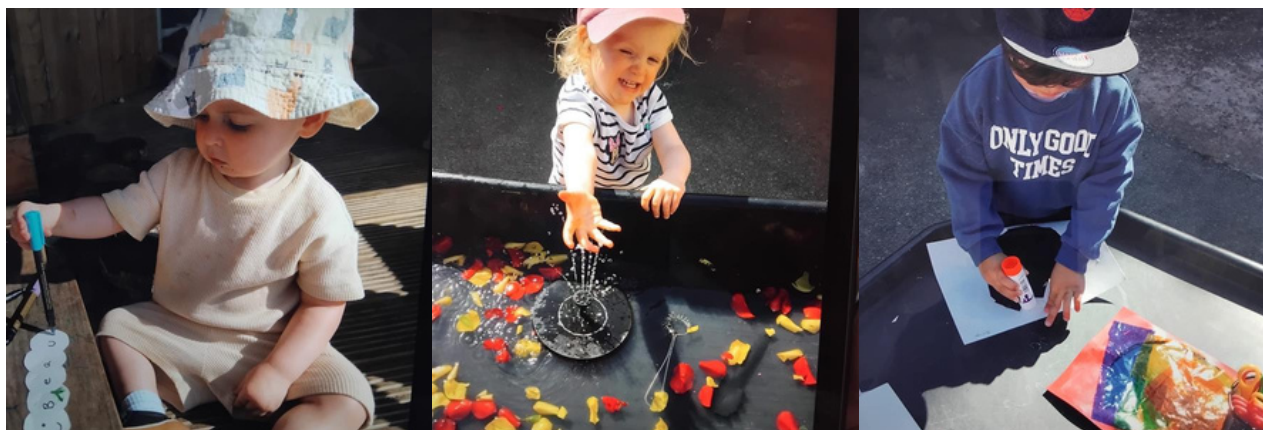
- **Friday 18th July** - Last Day for children in receipt of 15/30 hours funding
- **W/C Monday 25th August** - Half of funding entitlement available
- **Monday 1st September** - All children return
- **Monday 25th August** - Bank Holiday (Nursery Closed)

Other:

- **16th June** - Fathers Day Craft Afternoon 230pm until 430pm
- **21st June** - Summer Fete Nursery Open Day
- **18th July** - Graduation 3pm until 5pm

Don't forget to follow our Social Media:

 [/getyourbootsmuddy](https://www.facebook.com/getyourbootsmuddy)



The Nest

We want to warmly welcome all the new babies who have recently joined us in the baby room. It's been lovely to see how well they've settled in and are already becoming part of the group.

This term, we've been exploring the theme of spring. One of our favourite activities has been ice play with flowers—the babies have been using their senses to feel the cold textures and watch the ice melt, sparking lots of curiosity and wonder.

Our older babies have been practising using a spoon independently during mealtimes, building those all-important self-help and coordination skills.

We've also been exploring a variety of textures during sensory play. One popular activity has been playing with rice and farm animals, where we've been encouraging the use of single words and animal sounds—moo, baa, and quack are definitely favourites!

Continue at home

At home, you can support your baby's learning with simple sensory experiences—try letting them explore ice cubes, cooked pasta, or dry rice in a safe space. Mealtimes are a great opportunity to encourage independent spoon use, even if it gets a little messy!

The Atelier

The toddlers have been having a wonderful time settling into and exploring their new room! The space has given us many new opportunities for learning and play, and the children have embraced it.

One of our recent favourites has been sharing the classic story, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. The children had so much fun decorating their own colourful caterpillars and tasting some of the fruits from the story—strawberries, plums, pineapple, apples, pears, and oranges were all big hits!

Building on this, we've been exploring colours through various play-based activities. During different games and creative sessions, the children have been extending their colour knowledge by sorting, matching, and naming colours.

Continue at home

You can continue the fun by reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* at home and encouraging your child to name the fruits and colours they see. Try a simple fruit tasting activity together and talk about the colours, textures, and tastes.

The Studio

The children in Pre-School have really enjoyed exploring the two newly set-up areas in their upstairs space. They've been full of curiosity about the new resources, and it's been lovely to see how well they've settled into their new routine.

Over the past six weeks, our learning focus has been Spring, which has naturally led us to explore themes around growth and development. The children have shown a great interest in learning about life cycles—both of plants and flowers and baby animals growing into adults. It's been a topic full of wonder and discovery!

We've also been working daily on letters and sounds. Each day, we do a focused activity as a whole group, adapting it to meet the needs and ages of all our learners. It's been wonderful to see the children so engaged in developing their early literacy skills through songs, games, and phonics play.

Continue at home

You can support your child's learning by talking about how things grow—look at plants in your garden, or compare baby animals in books to their adult versions. Reading stories together that include rhymes or repeated sounds helps reinforce phonics. You can also play simple sound games, like "I spy," or talk about the first sound in your child's name to build early sound awareness in a fun way.

Recipe of the Month

CHICKEN FAJITAS

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 large chicken breasts thinly sliced (or a meat substitute)
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- 1 red pepper, thinly sliced
- 1 red chilli, thinly sliced (optional)
- Handful grated cheddar cheese
- 1 heaped tbsp paprika
- 1 tbsp ground coriander
- Pinch of ground cumin
- 2 medium garlic cloves, crushed 4 tbsp olive oil
- 1 lime, juiced

For Salsa:

- 1 cucumber, peeled and diced
- ½ red onion, diced
- 250g tomatoes, seeded and diced 1 tspn crushed fresh garlic
- 1 tbsp lime juice
- 1 tspn olive oil
- ½ tspn ground cumin
- ½ tspn ground black pepper

Instructions

1. Heat oven to 200C/400F/gas mark 6.
2. Mix paprika, coriander, cumin, crushed garlic, olive oil, and lime juice together in a bowl.
3. Stir the sliced chicken breasts, red onion, red pepper, and optional chilli into the marinade.
4. Heat a griddle pan until smoking hot and add the marinated chicken.
5. Keep everything moving over the high heat until you get a nice charred effect. If your griddle pan is small, you can do this in two batches.

6. To check the chicken is cooked, cut into the thickest part of the chicken. If it is still red inside, then continue cooking.
7. For the salsa, mix the diced tomato, onion, cucumber, then add the lime juice, minced garlic, cumin, and black pepper. Set aside.
8. Put the tortillas in the oven to heat up for a few minutes, and serve with the cooked chicken mixture, salsa, and grated cheese.



Recent Training

Vicki recently attended a Network Meeting as part of her ongoing training. She also took part in the SENCo Forum and Safeguarding Forum, keeping up to date with best practice and current guidance to support the children and team effectively.

Colleague Spotlight

Sophie is truly shining in our preschool room and continues to excel in her role. She's putting in so much effort and consistently goes above and beyond to support our preschoolers.

She is also working hard towards achieving her Level 3 qualification, and we're really proud of her dedication and progress.

