



Newsletter

Just one more week to go and we will be at the end of one more school year! Our last day will be Friday the 18th of July and we will finish at 3pm as usual.



We had a fantastic school year filled with lots of play and learning and we are very sad to say goodbye to our older children who are leaving us to go to school. They will all be missed by everyone. We wish them all the best in their big school and in their future!

We also wish everyone lovely summer holidays and we look forward to having our younger children back in September. Term 1 will start on Wednesday the 3rd of September. The preschool will re-open a day before, on Tuesday the 2nd September at 10am, for a settling-in session offered to our new children who are starting preschool in September.

Term 5:

Our main theme in Term 5 was 'Life Cycles'. The children were learning about the life cycle of plants, frogs, bugs and particularly caterpillars. As every year, we had caterpillars in our setting and the children were monitoring the changes of our caterpillars daily until they turned into butterflies and then we let them go.

Our main event in Term 5 was the Bikeathon and Fun Day, which was this year again very successful! This time we 'pedalled' for some new bikes. The children had lots of fun, and we raised enough money to purchase some new bikes for preschool. Many thanks to everyone who took part in any way and supported this event!



Term 6:

The two most popular themes in Term 6 were Dinosaurs and Pirates! The children enjoyed engaging in imaginative play using small world toys as well as going on their pirate adventures outside. They showed big interest in being palaeontologists and engaged in digging for dinosaurs' bones and fossils hidden in our garden trays for many hours, learning their tricky names.

Other themes we explored were Summer and Transitions. There was lots of talk about going to school with our older children and about going on holidays with everyone. We also spent a week talking about our dads and grandads and creating cards and medals for Father's Day.



Our two big events in Term 6 were Sports Day and Summer Concert with our Leavers' Ceremony. There was lots of practice done for both events and we hope everyone agrees that the children were fantastic! Again, many thanks to everyone who helped with the Summer Concert in any way.

For more detailed information about our weekly learning, please go to our Facebook closed group where you can find our weekly updates supported with lots of photos.

Staff Updates:

At the end of this school year, we are going to say goodbye to two of our practitioners, Zoe Lewis and Maria Flores, who are both leaving us to start a new chapter in their careers. We wish them both well in their future. They will be missed by us all, especially the children. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Zoe and Maria for being a part of our pre-school family this school year.

In September, we will welcome a new member of staff, Tracey Webb, a fully qualified practitioner who will work full-time and take a responsibility of being a key person to one of our key groups.

Working with parents:



At the end of this school year, we would like to take the opportunity to thank all our parents for their support and involvement in our pre-school life, especially to our management and fundraising committee and the parents who are in charge of escorting parents to/from preschool, as well as to everyone who helped us on our village walks throughout the year. We also would like to thank everyone for their kind donations in any form, it is a great help for our pre-school community, and we appreciate it.

Story book bags and Bertie Bear:

Our story book bags were very popular between the children this year and lots of good stories went home to be read with parents at bedtime. Thank you for taking part in reading and writing your observations in reading diaries, giving us feedback.



All book bags arrived back to preschool to be put away until September, except the **red** one. If you have the red book bag with you at home, please bring it back in on your child's next session.



Our Bertie Bear had another fantastic year! He had lots of adventures and even went abroad to Australia and Sweden! Thank you so much for being so supportive and creative when Bertie came to your house. All the children really loved our 'show-and-tell' circle times with Bertie, proudly showing photos in Bertie's diary and telling everyone about their time spent together.

Bertie will start visiting our families again in September, so if your child hasn't had Bertie for a weekly visit yet, he will be coming to your house over the next school year.

Funding Entitlement Changes in September 2025

A letter was sent home to you in June regarding changes to the funding entitlement in September 2025. If your child is 2 in September 2025, and you are eligible, there will be some changes to the 2-year-old Working Families Funding Entitlement as follows:

Since April 2024, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds have been able to access up to 15 hours of free early education (over 38 weeks a year). From September 2025, the final stage of the rollout will occur, with eligible working parents able to access up to 30 free hours per week (over 38 weeks a year) for children aged from 9 months old until they start school.

From September 2025, we also no longer accept funding for Breakfast Club and Early Start Sessions within any funded allowances.

AGM - Management committee:



Our AGM is being held on 9th October 2025 at 7.30pm. Venue to be advised soon. A letter will be sent out to you with more information about the committee and how you can help us shape the future of the pre-school. We have several members leaving the committee at the end of this school year, so we do need new members. If we do not have enough members, the pre-school would unfortunately have to close. So, if you feel that this is something you would be interested in, please do let us know.



Measles Outbreak:

We were informed by local authorities that there are ongoing measles outbreaks in a few regions in England, with 109 confirmed cases in April and 86 in May. The ongoing outbreaks have primarily affected unvaccinated children under 10. We are lucky not to have any identified cases this year.

UKHSA are [warning that the upcoming summer travel season could trigger a new surge in cases](#), as families visit countries experiencing their own measles outbreaks. This comes amid a significant global increase, with European cases already double the number reported last year – the highest since 1997. Parents are urged to check their children's vaccination records and ensure they've received both doses of the MMR vaccine, which is free on the NHS. It's never too late to catch up on missed vaccinations.

Here is a new [blog](#) about measles and the MMR vaccine.

Healthy Smiles:



As you know we are a Healthy Smiles Accredited pre-school. The latest oral health newsletter is now out, so if you like to read and share this with your children, please follow this link [Healthy Smiles](#)

Also, if you have recently registered your child with a dentist and you haven't provided us with this information yet, please let us know so that we can update your child's records.

Summer Safety Tips:



As the hot weather is set to continue this summer, we would like to share with you some great advice from The Child Accident Prevention Trust:

[Summer safety tips: 8 reminders to keep children safe this summer](#)

Some useful information could also be found here:

[Beat the heat: hot weather advice - GOV.UK](#)

Summer Reading Challenge:

The 2025 Summer Reading Challenge, **Story Garden**, takes place in our local libraries from 5th of July until the 6th of September and it celebrates fantasy, adventure and the great outdoors. This is an opportunity to explore nature with a [free](#) children's reading challenge. For more info, follow the [Summer Reading Challenge](#) link.

Tiny Happy People – Starting School:

[BBC CBeebies Parenting / Tiny Happy People](#), a service from BBC Children's & Education, has a wealth of content for families to support the skills children need to start school.

Check out the '[Skills for Starting School](#)' collection page full of free content, from introducing the potty and toilet independence to language learning.

The website also has [activity ideas](#), [tips and advice](#), [child development facts](#), [key talking tips for any age](#) and much more.

Oxfordshire Play Spaces:

If you need some ideas about what to do with your children this summer, please search for the events on the page [Oxfordshire Play Spaces](#) to find out more.

We also recommend an App called '[50 Things to do before you are 5](#)' which is full of good ideas for play with children age 0-4.

Miss Lucy's Summer School:

During the w/c 28th of July, our much-loved Miss Lucy is holding her **Pre-School Summer School** at the KAD Wallingford studios. If you haven't done so yet, it is still not too late to enrol. For more info, please contact Miss Lucy at www.kinacroftacademy.co.uk

Help with the cost of living:

If you are concerned about how to pay for everyday costs and financial support, please look for some useful information here <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/council/help-rising-living-costs>

Dates for your Diary:

July <u>Friday 18th</u> End of Term 6	September <u>Tuesday 2nd</u> Settling In Sessions for new children, 10am <u>Wednesday 3rd</u> Start of Term 1
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Message from the Fundraising Team

We are a charity run pre-school and all proceeds from our fundraising events go straight back into your child's pre-school. The only other money that the pre-school receives is from your session fees, which is not enough to keep the pre-school refreshed and up to date. If you would like to help, or would like to share your ideas, please contact a member of the pre-school team and we can add you to the Fundraising WhatsApp Group. New members are very welcome, the more help and ideas we have the more money we can raise!



Money Raised

Bikeathon & Fun Day



Our Bikeathon & Fun Day was a huge success and this year we were pedalling for new pre school bikes. We managed to raised £873 which is a huge amount for our little preschool. Thanks to everyone who sponsored their children and got sponsorship from family and friends, thanks to all the helpers on the day and huge congratulations to all the children who took part. Lots of fun was had by all.

Summer Concert & Graduation Ceremony

Our Summer Concert was another huge success and our little superstars sang their hearts out. All the practice paid off on the day. Thank you to all who came along and brought tickets and cookies and a special thanks to all our fundraisers who helped on the day. We managed to raise £189 on the day and also made a donation to South Moreton Church for allowing us to hold the event in the church. We also said farewell to all our little leavers which is always hard to say goodbye to them and our families.

