

Maytree Nursery School & Children's Centre Newsletter



February 2023 Spring

Dates for your diary

Below are listed some key dates coming up this term:

Thursday 2nd March	World Book Day
Monday 20th March	Incubator and eggs arriving
Thursday 30th March	Children's last day of the term
Friday 31st March	Parent conferencing



EASTER HOLIDAY

Holiday club will run for the 2 weeks,
CLOSED on the bank holidays.

Monday 17th April	School INSET day
Tuesday 18th April	Children return to school
Monday 1st May	Bank holiday. School closed.
Monday 8th May	Bank holiday. School closed.
Friday 26th May	Children's last day of the term

Welcome to all our new families and welcome back to our familiar friends. We hope you enjoyed the half term break. You will receive this newsletter each half term, and it will be a forum where we will share with you any news, developments and information on the learning and events that are happening throughout the nursery.

For all new families, thank you for all of your support and patience throughout the settling in process. We understand that this can be a difficult time for the adults involved as well as the children. There is always someone available to support you, listen to your worries and help to reassure you.


Events this term

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day.

Children can dress up
as a book character



they like. For example, a puppy from 'Dear Zoo' or the 'The rainbow fish'. Ingenious designs made at home using old/recycled materials are highly recommended. Try to involve your child in choosing and designing as part of their literacy learning. Please move away from costumes unrelated to book characters such as generic action figures or fancy dress. Check out the World Book Day website for ideas: <https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up/>

Monday 20th March -  Incubator and eggs arriving. We are excited that the incubator and eggs from Living Eggs will arrive at Maytree. Children will observe and learn about how it all started for chicks. They will also learn how to care for and respect living things. All chicks will be ethically placed at the end of the programme and none will go to commercial farms.

Friday 31st March - Parent conferencing day. School is closed to children. Prior to this date you will arrange an appointment with your child's key person, where you will have time to discuss your child's progress with them.

Reminders

Please can we remind you that the car park is not for use by parents and carers when dropping off and collecting. This is a car park for the residents of the flats, and visitors to the nursery that have booked a space. We also ask that you do not double park on Allingham Road, as the traffic for the building site is passing past the nursery.

We sell Maytree sweatshirts and T-shirts for your children to wear at nursery. Please ask at the office if you would like to purchase these.

Finally, our story time/ group time sessions are very special times for the children; where they are able to focus on development of targeted skills. We ask that if you need to collect your child early, that you do not disturb this precious time. If you need to collect your child early we ask that you arrive prior to 11.25am in the morning, and 2.55pm in the afternoon. If you arrive after these times you will be asked to wait until home time. Please ensure that anyone collecting your child is aware of this arrangement.

School Fund

We appreciate all of the school fund donations we receive, as they help us to pay for our cooking activities, the farm, visitors to the school and our trips. This term is £13 for p/timers and £19.50 for f/timers and can be paid at reception.

We have been interested in...

- Why and how rockets go up.
- Reliving our experience in travelling by creating our own airport and aeroplane, all passports and luggages packed.
- Where jellyfish and other sea creatures live.
- How Chinese New Year is celebrated.
- Honing our fine motor skills by exploring slime baffle, corn flour mixture and playdough.
- Strengthening our gross motor skills by playing games in the garden and tackling obstacle course.
- Telling our own story through our drawings.
- Exploring lights and shadow in the den we made of fabrics.
- Experimenting with weighing and balancing different objects by using giant and small scales.
- How to be a good friend and how to show our care and love.
- What happened to the stickman, the rainbow fish, and all sorts of fascinating characters in books.



So we...

- Made rockets with teachers' help and watched them go up in the garden and there were a lot of hoorays.
- Checked our passports, packed our luggages, chatted all the way to the airport in the garden, checked in and boarded the aeroplane with our friends. One of our friends was the pilot. Another day we took the bus.
- Watched how jellyfish move in videos and made some jellyfish using the materials we like and talked to our friends about our own designs. We extended our interest to learn about other sea animals.
- Learned about Chinese New Year celebrations through real object display, trying on Chinese celebratory clothes, listening to Chinese music, having a go at writing Chinese characters and having a parade with the Chinese lanterns we made.
- Set up a cosy reading corner and read with our friends. We also enjoyed finding words that rhyme with each other.
- Talked about how friends make us feel, how to be kind and designed some lovely cards for people we love.



We will be...

- Wondering a lot and asking a lot of whys and hows.
- Exploring materials, either in messy/sensory play or in using different resources to create models, pictures or our own designs.
- Going on journeys in our role play, indoors and outdoors.
- Writing letters to make words, but before that we will be doing squiggles, dots, lines and our own drawings.
- Expecting the eggs to hatch and looking after the chicks.
- Making new friends and keeping the old and learning to tell them our feelings and listen to theirs.
- Starting Forest School again.



It would be so much fun if at home we can...

- ★ Cook together, talk about how we measure the ingredients, and what happens to the ingredients as we cook; melt, mix, change, 'runny', etc..
- ★ Take a train, tube, bus journey, or visit a transport museum, or any museum.
- ★ Make some play dough.
- ★ Plant some seeds and care for them. Talk about what the plants need to grow and see how tall they can grow.
- ★ Use a range of containers in the bath/bowl to explore filling and emptying, talk about how full they are. Try different things to see if they sink or float.