



**Welcome back!**

**Here are just a few special notes about the coming spring half term 2017.**

The children are making lovely progress in their learning and this is evident in their **learning journeys**. Thank you so much for all your contributions too and all the informal conversations you have with the team about your child’s learning. We love sharing in your child’s learning with you both at home and at nursery. Finding out they are fascinated by something at home and being able to see how this continues at nursery enables us all to use this information to develop each individual child’s learning so we can work together with you to support your child’s learning and development.

We are particularly looking this year at continuing to develop our understanding and provision for young children’s learning by ensuring that they have real learning adventures and challenges. Research shows that children who experience these real challenges and become risk competent show the best attitudes to learning – such as high levels of engagement, motivation to want to learn and being able to think about and use their own ideas.

We have a very busy few weeks coming up with some special events please make a note of them so you don’t miss out.

<b>SPECIAL DATES</b>		
THURSDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	<b>WORLD BOOK DAY</b>	Encourage your child to bring a favourite story to nursery. <u>We do not expect the children to dress up</u> . Each child will receive a special book token which can be taken to participating book shops and exchanged for a book
FRIDAY 24 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>COMIC RELIEF</b>	We shall be making red nose biscuits and offering to face paint red noses. Parents can make donations which we will send to Comic Relief
THURSDAY 6 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>PARENTS MEETINGS</b>	Parents will be allocated a time during the day to come and meet with your child’s special teacher. This will enable you to discuss how your child is progressing and to plan the next steps for them. Please ask your child’s special teacher for an appointment slot. Children will not be in for normal nursery during the day
FRIDAY 7 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>ACORN &amp; OAK EASTER FAMILY FUNDAY &amp; BREAK UP</b>	Come along as a family for some special Springtime Crafts, planting and an Easter egg hunt and lots more! The morning session will be between 9.30am-11am and the afternoon session will be between 12.30pm – 2pm. Feel free to come and go at a time that suits you. Children must be accompanied by an adult. If the weather is fine you may also be able to bring a picnic to eat in the garden too. We will confirm closer to the date Children break up today for Easter
MONDAY 10 <sup>th</sup> – FRIDAY 21 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>	
MON 24 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>NURSERY CLOSED</b>	Staff training
TUE 25 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>BACK TO SCHOOL</b>	Normal time
MON 1 <sup>st</sup> MAY	<b>MAY BANK HOLIDAY</b>	

- We know how important it is for the children's learning, well-being and development to have free access to the outdoors. The children have wellies, fleeces and waterproofs to use in our garden.
- Research has also shown that it is very important that young children should spend time without their shoes on to help develop their physical skills, balance and co-ordination. Please support your child to take off their coats and shoes when they come into nursery and to put their coats and shoes back on when you collect them. All the time and support you can give your child in developing their independence really helps their confidence and self-help skills.
- We are currently developing our garden planting space – if anyone has spare seeds, bulbs or plants please let us know and we will gladly make use of them.
- Please ensure if you have had a new phone number that you have informed staff on reception. **It is essential for safeguarding** that we can contact you **at all times** when your child is at Windsor if we need to. Also please contact us to let us know if your child is unwell and unable to attend nursery. You can telephone, email us or ask another parent to pass on a message.
- We are collecting **Sainsbury's vouchers** to exchange for resources for outdoors - please ask everyone in your family & workplace to save them and place them in the collection box in reception.

Thanks for your on-going support. If you have any questions please feel free to ask us. We look forward to a happy (& hopefully sunny) half term.

Any questions – don't hesitate to ask us

Everyone in Oak room