

Outdoor clothing

We kindly request that you provide your child with:

- A warm outdoor coat
- A warm hat
- Gloves or mittens

These items will enable your child to comfortably participate in daily outdoor learning. Please store gloves in your child's coat pockets and tuck hats inside your child's coat sleeve. Make sure to name all items of clothing.

**Ideal clothing includes** leggings or tracksuit bottoms, which allow for unrestricted movement during active learning opportunities whilst also keeping your child warm.

Fundraising

Thank you for all your support with sponsored events last term. This money has been used to fund Christmas activities, gifts and to buy new resources for the Oak room.

Reading Volunteers

We are looking for willing volunteers who have time to come along to nursery and read a nursery story to a small group of children. Reading books is not always modelled to children by adults as we are all guilty of using our mobile devices in place of books, magazines and newspapers. We want our children to develop a love of reading and we would love your help to promote this. This is an open invitation to grandparents, parents and extended family members to come into school to read. If you are free to join us, please speak to your child's key person to arrange a date and time.

Nursery provision

If your child takes home some nursery toys please return these to us. We understand there are lots of exciting resources that the children love to play with and these may end up in little pockets. Please do not feel embarrassed, this happens quite often. It costs a lot of money to replace missing items and sometimes these are taken from sets and cannot be individually replaced. For example the small world animals are all purchased in sets and to replace one would mean buying the entire set again. Please pass any resources back to nursery staff to ensure that they are put back into the correct places. Thank you.

**Safeguarding Reminders**

- Please **do not leave any young children unattended** in cars when dropping off and collecting.
- Please **ensure all children coming to nursery are strapped into a suitable car seat**. This is UK law.

Parents and carers who do not use the correct car seats and those who leave children unattended can be **reported to social services for failure to safeguard** a child.



Spring Term 2026 Newsletter  
Oak Room



Our planned curriculum for the Oak room children

The nursery environment within the Oak room has been carefully created with resources to further embed and extend the skills children learned in the Maple room. The continuous provision has been selected to progress the development of PRIME areas and introduce the Specific areas of Early Years Foundation Stage. Resources are displayed to promote children's independence and embed the characteristics of effective teaching and learning. Children in the Oak room have a number of opportunities to meet together in their small group with similar age peers, for a planned experience led by their key person. This may be focused around mathematical development, phonological awareness, reading a story or singing songs and rehearsing rhymes together. Children continue to embed social skills and mathematical learning through sharing in snack time. Tasks such as self registration onto 5 frames, using visual timetables, listening for and responding to the rhythm of the day and matching resources back to their original places at tidy up time all promote mathematical understanding.

Celebrations

- Lunar New Year
- Valentine hearts
- Pancake cafe
- World book day story time
- Easter hunt
- Red nose day

Core Songs

- I can build a little house
- Henry's happy hair shop
- The bubble gum song
- Down in the Jungle where nobody goes
- Hop little bunnies
- Little Peter rabbit

Core Rhymes

- The tickle rhyme
- No harm done

Core Books

- Rosie's Hat
- Oi Frog
- Aliens love underpants
- Would you rather...
- Wave
- Peace at Last
- Hop Little Bunnies
- Dentist
- Lunar New Year
- Penguin Pig
- Mr Wolf's Pancakes
- We are family
- Dogs don't do ballet
- The three Billy Goats Gruff

Mathematical development

- Subitising (*instantly recognise a small number of objects without counting*)

Phonological awareness

Listening to and recognise everyday sounds in the environment. Enjoying rhythm and rhyme in songs, stories, and speech. Hear and talk about rhyming words and beginning sounds in words. Play with sounds by making up fun words and phrases. Build vocabulary and confidence through listening, talking & sound play

**Termly focus** caring for living things through the Big Garden Bird Watch oral health and dental hygiene

Family engagement

- Spring Family day – a lovely afternoon to end the Spring term with free activities and refreshments

Parent workshop

- Screen time (to be confirmed)

**Parent evening dates** – 9<sup>th</sup> February (Green) and 23<sup>rd</sup> March (Red/Yellow) 3-5pm. All parents are invited to sign up for an appointment to find out about their child's progress and engage with setting outcomes for their child to work towards.

## January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thru	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Return to nursery	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Primary School admission deadline	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Parent evening green	10	11	12	13 Valentine hearts	14
15	16 Lunar New Year celebration week	17 Pancake cafe	18	19	20	21
22	23 Half term	24 Half term	25 Half term	26 Half term	27 Half term	28

**If your child is unwell and unable to come to nursery you must let us know by either telephoning 01915271168 or emailing [rosemary.lane@durhamlearning.net](mailto:rosemary.lane@durhamlearning.net)**

As a school we have to follow safeguarding policy and this requires us to find out where a child is when they do not attend school

## March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 World Book Day story time 2.20pm	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Red Nose Day – wear red	21
22	23 Parents evening red & yellow	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 Spring Family Day- all children to be accompanied from 2pm	2 Easter Hunt	3 School Holiday	4
5	6 School Holiday	7 School Holiday	8 School Holiday	9 School Holiday	10 School Holiday	11
12	13 School Holiday	14 School Holiday	15 School Holiday	16 School Holiday / Primary School offer day	17 School Holiday	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

A parent workshop – “Supporting families with screen time” for younger children will be running this term. Dates and more information will be shared on Seesaw.