



Reading volunteers and Plant donations

Thank you to the families who came along last term and read to our Oak room children. It was a lovely experience, and the children really enjoyed it. Thank you also for the wonderful donations for the nursery gardens. We are very lucky to have such generous families in our school community

Uniform donations

Now that your child is preparing to move on to their next phase in education you may have excess, good condition, nursery uniform. We offer preloved uniform to new nursery starters and would be grateful of donations of clean uniform items that could be reused.

Outdoor Exploration

All nursery children are given the opportunity to access the outdoor learning environment each day. Research confirms that **“Outdoor learning improves child development, supports mental health and wellbeing, deepens nature connection and promotes more inclusive and engaging learning”**.

As the weather is improving, please ensure your child arrives at nursery wearing a named sun hat and with sunscreen already applied. **Do not send children to nursery in crocs or sandals** as these can be dangerous when children are using outdoor climbing equipment.

Packed Lunch Bags

Please ensure you place an ice pack inside your child's lunch bag to ensure the contents of the lunch remains fresh until it is eaten. Don't forget to write your child's name on this with a permanent marker pen, to ensure it is returned in the correct lunch bag.

Transition Visits to Primary School

If your child has a transition visit to their Primary School, we ask that you do not arrive to collect or drop children off during the school lunchtime period as the nursery staff will be on their lunch break and the front gates will be locked. You can collect children at 11.40am and drop them back into school from 1.20pm. Please inform your child's key person of their visit in advance. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

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 by calling 03000 267 979.

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 meet together in their small group for a planned experience that is led by their key person. All children participate in an activity around mathematical development, phonological awareness, listening to a core story and singing core songs or rhymes across the school day. We embed mathematical skills through using 5 frames at snack time and self registration, 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. Children learn mindfulness techniques to support with their development of self regulation when they arrive at nursery each morning.

Celebrations

- Celebration of being unique
- End of year parties

Core Songs

- Tall shops
- The ladybird song
- Aiken drum
- Bim Bam
- Hello Mister Sun
- 1 mother hen sat on her eggs
- Green frog
- M, m went the little green frog

Core Rhymes

- Hen's song
- A tiny chick inside an egg

Mathematical development

- 5 frames

Core Books

- A good place
- Tadpoles promise
- The Lion inside
- Max the brave
- On the Way Home
- Be more Bernard
- Baby on board
- Saving our planet
- The Magic of Me
- Do not enter the monster zoo
- Starting school
- The lost teddy
- The haircut

Phonological awareness

- Discriminate phonemes
- Reproduce audibly the phonemes they hear in order all through words
- Use sound talk to segment words into phonemes

Termly focus

finding out about growth and change through animal lifecycles. Transition to Primary School.

Family engagement

- Beach visit – we will visit South Shields beach and park with all children and families.

Parent workshop

- Regulation 23rd June

Parent evening date – 6th July, 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.

April / May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	20 Return to nursery	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4 Bank Holiday	5 Nursery photo day 1	6 Nursery photo day 2	7 Nursery photo day 3	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Half Term	26 Half Term	27 Half Term	28 Half Term	29 Half Term	30

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Sponsored story orienteering with families	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Parent workshop on co-regulation PM	24 We are all unique – celebration day	25	26	27
28	29	30				

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

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

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 Deadline to request a pdf Seesaw account	2	3	4
5	6 Parent meetings for Oak room	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 South Shields Beach trip	17 Nursery leavers celebration event AM	18
School holiday						

Mrs Martin will be archiving the Seesaw account for all the Oak Room children at the end of term. If you would like a PDF of your child's account, please add a "note" to your child's Seesaw account to request this. Please provide details of the email account that you would like the pdf to be transferred to. The deadline for requesting a pdf will be Wednesday 1st July.

All children and families are invited to attend the end of term beach visit to South Shields on Thursday 16th July. Nursery will not be open for parents and children on this day. More information will be sent in a letter and via Seesaw posts. Nursery staff will be offering parents the opportunity to buy discounted tickets to Ocean Beach Pleasure Park Amusements and Rides for the trip. More information about tickets will be sent via Seesaw closer to the time. As under 2s should travel in a car seat, unfortunately we are unable to offer South Shields bus places for sibling under 2. Families are still welcome to join us by using their own transport to South Shields.

We have revised our usual end of term arrangements for the Oak room to combine the leavers ceremony and end of nursery celebration. Our 'Leaver's Celebration' will be held on the morning of Friday 17th July. Parents and carers will attend the full event with their child. To accommodate all the children and families we will be splitting the cohort into two groups and will have two celebrations. The first group will be at 9am and the second group will be at 10.30am. You will receive more information about which celebration you and your child will participate in via an invitation on Seesaw. The celebration will be in the Oak room and garden so please prepare for the weather conditions as appropriate on the day.