

Peter Rabbit Nursery Newsletter: April 2025

Key Dates for Your Diary:

Stay and Play Sessions: **Week Beginning 19th May (Monday, Wednesday & Thursday)**

This time our focus will be on showing parents how we teach phonics at nursery. We will have a sign-up sheet available nearer the time. The session will start at 9am and finish at 10am. Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate 'mobile' siblings.

Sports Day: **TBC**

Our annual sports day event is due to take place during the second half of this term. We will confirm the date as soon as possible.

Leavers Party/Assembly: **Tuesday 22nd July 2025**

This will be on the last day of term. This day will only be for those children leaving us to start Reception in September. We will start the day with a party and then invite all parents back at 11am to watch our leavers assembly.

Lifecycle of a Duckling and Caterpillar

One of the most exciting projects of the year is underway—we're hatching ducklings in nursery! The incubator is set up, the eggs are in place, and over the next two weeks the children will be checking in daily to observe the eggs closely and notice changes. Once they hatch, we'll be learning how to care for them gently and respectfully—feeding, keeping them warm, and watching them learn to walk and swim! It's a beautiful experience that teaches children about life cycles, empathy, responsibility, and patience.

Alongside our ducklings, we will also have a group of very hungry caterpillars! The children will watch as these tiny creatures grow, spin cocoons, and eventually emerge as butterflies. We'll be releasing them into our garden once they're ready to fly away. This process opens up conversations about growth, change, and nature's wonders.

Lunchbox Policy – Updated Policy

We've recently reviewed our lunchbox policy to support healthy eating and allergy safety. We kindly ask that all parents take a moment to read through the updated guidance by clicking the link here: https://www.peterabbit-nursery-burpham.co.uk/_files/ugd/980ea1_fbd7f80fb6634d5d8ee9b9bebf005931.pdf

Key reminders include:

- No nuts or nut products
- Please avoid sweets and chocolate bars
- Include a balanced variety of food: fruit, vegetables, proteins, and whole grains
- Clearly label all containers and water bottles
- Ensure all food is cut appropriately (grapes in quarters lengthways etc)

Thank you for helping us create a safe and healthy environment for everyone.

Reminders: Please ensure

All items (including clothes) are clearly labelled.

If you are using the Working Parents Funding please ensure you are aware of the deadline for the application. For more info please visit: <https://www.peterabbit-nursery-burpham.co.uk/copy-of-opening-times> This link contains all the information parents need regarding fees and funding for the nursery.

Term dates can be found here (including the provisional dates for 2025-2026): <https://www.peterabbit-nursery-burpham.co.uk/copy-of-current-parents>

Donations of baby wipes, tissues and nappy sacks are always appreciated.

Gardening: Herbs, Sunflowers & Cress

The children will be planting herbs like mint, basil, and chives, as well as sunflowers to brighten up our outdoor space. These hands-on activities help build fine motor skills, foster responsibility, and encourage a connection with the natural world.

We're also growing **cress** this term—and once it's ready, the children will be bringing their little pots home so they can continue looking after them with you. It's a great opportunity to talk about how food grows and to taste the results of their hard work! (Tip: cress is delicious in egg sandwiches or sprinkled on salads!)

Preparing for School

If your child is due to start school in September, you should have received their **primary school place offer on 16th April**. To help us support a smooth and positive transition, please let your child's key person or a member of the team know **which school they'll be attending** as soon as possible. This allows us to begin preparing each child for the changes ahead, including activities around school readiness, emotional support, and, where possible, transition visits or chats with their new school.

We're here to support you and your child every step of the way as this big milestone approaches!

Supporting Social Skills Through Play

At Peter Rabbit Nursery, play is the heart of how we support children's learning and development. This term, we're focusing on strengthening the children's social skills through a mix of guided and child-led play.

Whether they're deep in imaginative role play, building dens together, sharing books, or playing turn-taking games, we gently support the children in listening to others, recognising emotions, expressing their own needs, and working as part of a group.

We also use a technique called **sportscasting** to help children navigate social situations and resolve conflict. This involves calmly narrating what's happening—without judgment—so that children feel heard, validated, and can begin to understand one another's perspective.

For example: *"I see you both want the red truck. It looks like it's hard to wait. Let's find a way to solve this together."*

This approach helps children build empathy and learn peaceful problem-solving in a safe, supportive environment.

Looking Ahead

This term is shaping up to be a joyful one, full of outdoor fun, creative learning, and new experiences. Whether it's helping ducklings take their first steps or watching sunflowers reach for the sky, the children will have plenty of magical moments to remember. Thank you for being such an important part of our nursery community. We truly value your ongoing support and look forward to sharing many special moments with your children in the weeks ahead.

Warmest regards,

The Peter Rabbit Girls x

