

Peter Rabbit Nursery Newsletter: January 2024

Key Dates for Your Diary:

Lunar New Year: Week beginning 10th February

This week we will be tasting Chinese food. The children will be trying noodles, prawn crackers and spring rolls. We are aware of any allergies the children have and will make adaptations where necessary. Please let us know if you do not wish for your children to take part.

Stay and Play Sessions: Week beginning 26th February

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

World Book Day: Thursday 7th March

Children are invited to come to nursery dressed as their favourite book character. If your child does not normally attend on a Thursday then you can pick a different day for them dress up.

Reminders: Please ensure

- All items (including clothes) are clearly labelled.
- Please could we have any donations of tissues and baby wipes. As you can imagine going into cold season we are using these a lot.
- If you are using the 30 hours funding please ensure you are aware of the deadline for the application. For more info please visit: <https://www.peterrabbit-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: <https://www.peterrabbit-nursery-burpham.co.uk/copy-of-current-parents>

Fees: From April 2024

With the rising cost of living and the latest Government budget changes we have had to review our fee structure. The changes in the table below will come into effect from April 2024. The Government funding currently does not cover all the costs related to providing all aspects of the provision we offer and therefore a sustainability charge is added to cover any additional costs.

	Non Funded Hours per day (Including sustainability charge)	Government Funded Hours per day (Sustainability charge)
AM	£34.00	£5.50
PM	£17.00	£2.50

Shoe Laces: A plea from all the teachers...

We have a number of children wearing shoes with laces to nursery. This is causing a few accidents when they trip over their laces. We are aware that many of these have zips up the sides but the laces are still coming undone whilst the children are playing. Please could children only wear slip on or Velcro shoes to nursery unless they are independent in doing up their laces by themselves. Thank you for your support.

How we teach maths

At Peter Rabbit we believe it is important that children develop positive attitudes and interests in mathematics, look for patterns and relationships, spot connections, 'have a go', talk to adults and peers about what they notice and not be afraid to make mistakes. All this is done through our play and explorations.

We aim for all our children to develop a deep understanding of the numbers to 5, the relationships between them and the patterns within those numbers.

By providing frequent and varied opportunities to build and apply this understanding - such as using manipulatives, including small pebbles and five frames for organising counting - children will develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of mathematics is built.

In addition, it is important that the curriculum includes rich opportunities for children to develop their spatial reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics including shape, space and measures.

Why do we focus on numbers up to 5?

Although we do work with numbers beyond 5 our focus is that children have a really secure knowledge of numbers up to 5. This number sense helps children manipulate numbers to make calculations easier and gives them the confidence to be flexible in their approach to solving problems. Children who develop number sense can assess how reasonable an answer is, and routinely estimate answers before calculating.

The more grounded in mathematical concepts young children become, the better their later outcomes. Conversely, research shows that children who start behind in mathematics tend to stay behind throughout their educational journey.