

April 2023

We would like to give a special welcome to all our new children (Margo, Maude, Ivy and Alexandra).

We would also like to welcome Sally who brings a wealth of experience to our team. She will be working on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday starting after the Easter holidays.

It was lovely seeing the children enjoy themselves at the Easter Egg Hunt on the 12th April.

We are now taking bookings for the school year commencing September 2023. Please let us know asap what sessions you require. We have limited spaces available. Confirmation emails were sent out last term.

Allergies

Please can you avoid sending PEACHES or any products that contain PEACHES.

Invoices

Following parent feedback last year, we will be sending out the invoices prior to the start of term. This will allow you to set up payment schedules, review your bill, set up voucher schemes etc. This year you can pay online or by childcare vouchers. Please let us know how you will be paying. The invoices show the total fees for the term and how much to pay every month. Payment information will be sent out with the invoice.

Fees

This term the new fee structure comes into place that was previously mentioned in the February Newsletter. The changes are:

- The morning activities £3.
- The afternoon activities £2.
- 3 year old non government funded hours will be £4.60 per hour the term after the child's third birthday. This increase is in line with the government hourly rate.
- The 2 year old rate of £5 per hour will remain the same which is less than the current government guidelines.

We understand that these increases may come as a shock. Please speak to Heather if you have any concerns or difficulties.

Term Dates

Summer Term 2023 (13 Week Term)

Monday 17 th April	Term Starts	
Monday 1 st May	May Day	Bank Holiday
Monday 8 th May	Kings Coronation	Bank Holiday
Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June (inclusive)	Half-term	
Friday 21 st July	End of Summer Term	
Thursday 20 th July	Graduation	

Events

Yoga/ Pilates – Kathryn from KSCIM will continue to teach Yoga/ Pilates on Thursday afternoons (every other week). The children really enjoyed this last term. They got to pretend to be fairies, superheroes and animals. This will support the children's anxiety, well-being whilst doing a physical activity.

Leap Frog Sports – We are pleased to announce that Leap Frog Sports will be coming to nursery on Tuesday mornings for the Rising Stars P.E sessions. The children will get to learn a different sport each week. They will get to participate in; Basketball, Hockey, Volleyball, Cricket, Quidditch and Football this half term and Dodgeball, Athletics, Rounders, Handball, Rugby, Tennis and Team Races (Sports Day) the following half term. **The Rising Stars children will need a P.E. bag containing; shorts, top and pumps or trainers to be kept at nursery.**

Brookfield Photography – Tuesday 25th April and Wednesday 26th April. Group and single photographs have been booked on the Tuesday for the Rising Stars children and Wednesday for the children not going to school. Children who do not usually attend can drop in if they would like to take part.

Garden Party – Saturday 24th June 11-2. Donations and help on the day welcome nearer the time. This is our annual 2023 fundraiser for the children, it provides resources and special activities. It's a time when parents and children get together, bring picnic blankets and join in with the fun.

We charge £6 per family to include a bouncy castle, outdoor activities, a treasure hunt and a craft making session (these activities are more suitable for younger children).

Other activities include the BBQ (available from 11.30) where you can purchase hot dogs, and burgers, refreshments, including cakes and cold drinks, match the card on the jar, name the animal, bottle tombola, toys and books.

Please contact us by phone 07749477553, email or on Facebook to reserve your ticket.

Graduation – Thursday 20th July

Wow Board

Last term the children helped create a 'WOW' board in nursery. It contains stars with achievements the children have met in nursery. The children themselves with their key worker add their own stars to the board.

We are looking to put photo's of achievements from outside of nursery onto the board too. When your child has achieved something i.e. a certificate for dance, using the toilet for the first time, learning a new song etc, please can you send us a photo on Tapestry or email so the children can add it to the board.

Spring Term

During the spring term the children explored different cultures and festivals such as; Holi, Easter, Strove Tuesday, St David's Day, St Patricks Day, World Book Day and Mother's Day.

The children had a special visit on Friday 24th March from Captain America and Pirate Captain two 5 day old lambs. The children got to bottle feed, stroke and walk the lambs around the garden.

On Thursday afternoons Kathryn from KSCIM taught the children Yoga/ Pilates. They got to pretend to be fairies, superheroes and animals. This supported the children's anxiety, well-being whilst doing a physical activity.

Nursery Improvements

We are pleased to announce that to go with last year's garden renovations we will be introducing some new areas to our garden.

Part 1 The renovations include our new reading pod, benches and painting boards.

Part 2 Will include a new giant wormery. We look forward to introducing them soon!

EYPP – Early Years Pupil Premium

Last term we put the money towards Apps for the new interactive tables, a visit from Early Years inclusion to support the staff with new strategies to help support the children, weekly yoga, a visit from the dentist and a lamb visit.

This term we will be using the money to subsidise Leap Frog Sports and bring other one off professionals throughout the term. We are hoping to have an obstacle bouncy castle, insect lore caterpillars and a visit from Animal Mania who will bring different insects, bugs and hedgehogs to see. If there is something you think the children might enjoy, please let us know.

Operation Encompass

We are pleased to say that we are an Operation Encompass nursery. Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between Early Years Settings, schools and Police forces. It means that as a nursery we will be notified when a child has experienced domestic abuse (seeing or hearing), prior to them arriving at nursery. All staff members have been trained but the designated key adult is Heather (Designated Safeguarding Lead), with back up of Natasha (Deputy Safeguarding Lead) when Heather is not available. We believe being a part of this scheme as a nursery will provide the best support to all our children and will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.

Early Help

At Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery we recognise the challenges that families face in bringing up children. There may be times when you need extra help and support.

Early help is a way of getting extra support when you or your family needs it, but getting it as soon as the difficulties start, rather than waiting until things get worse. Help can come from all kinds of services and organisations who work together to support your family. You might be using some of these services already, but we want to make sure they are providing the right support for you and your family's needs.

It could be that you're worried about your child's health, development or behaviour, or perhaps because you are caring for a disabled child. Maybe your child is affected by domestic abuse, drugs or alcohol. Maybe you have had a bereavement in the family or someone close to your child is ill, or there has been a disruption to your family life and you are worried about the effect on them.

It could be that you yourself find times difficult and need advice with housing, debt, relationships or mental health issues.

If this is the case, please come talk to us. There are many ways our nursery can help and support you and your family.

Useful Links:

[NSPCC - Keeping Children Safe](#)
[Domestic Abuse Support](#)
[Childline](#)
[Alcohol / Drugs abuse](#)
[Emotional Health and Wellbeing](#)
[Mental Health support](#)

[ERIC – Toileting Advice](#)
[Starting Well Partnership](#)
[Child Tax Credit and Childcare Funding](#)
[Early Help Family Support](#)



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

Tapestry

Every child has a Tapestry account. For all the new children, these will be created when all the registration forms have been returned, before the children start. The parents will then receive an email on how to activate their account.

Tapestry is our online learning journal that allows us to send the parents observations of what they have done at nursery home, and also for you to send photos from home. Last term we were blown away by the number of photo's and achievements sent to us via Tapestry. We would love to continue this. If you go to a special event, any home learning activities, days out and WOW moments or even if the children want to show us something from home, please do not hesitate to send it via Tapestry. The children enjoy showing these photos' during show and tell. We will attach a document showing how to upload an observation. You will receive at least 1 observation a week unless your child is off sick or on holiday. The observation will show a photo of your child playing with a description of what they are doing and EYFS flags of development.

How to upload photos or videos to Tapestry: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=espJ96TJHV8>

Weekly Topic

Every week there will be a letter. The children are welcome to bring a toy from home that relates to the letter sound of the week for show and tell. You could also send a photo on Tapestry!

We will be continuing to learn about emotions. We will be focusing on emotions as Early Years children feel a range of emotions, but often cannot express, interpret or process them. Research shows that children with poor emotional skills, it could be harder for the children to learn. Behaviour can be an expression of their feeling and emotions.

Week 1 – d

Week 2 – g

Week 3 – o

Week 4 – u

Week 5 – l

Week 6 – f



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

Home Learning – Letter Sounds

To support the children's learning of letter sounds you could:

- Go on a letter sound treasure hunt in the house/ garden and see how many objects they can find.
- Go on a walk and see how many things they can find of that letter sound.
- Play letter sound 'eye spy' i.e. "I spy with my little eye something beginning with a". Make sure you are saying the phonics sound not the letter itself.

Home Learning - Emotions

To help support the children understand their emotions, you can:

- Label the children's emotions when at home.
- Ask them "how are you feeling?"
- "Why do you that way?"
- Show pictures of emotions.
- Listen to what the child says.
- Look at their body language, actions, sounds or words used.