



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

July 2025

Term Dates

Summer Term 2024 (11 Week Term)

Friday 18th July

End of Summer Term

Thursday 17th July

Graduation

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 1st September

Term Starts

Summer Term

During the Summer Term the children have been exploring different cultures/ festivals, minibeasts, living and growing, life cycles and transitions to school.

Living and Growing?

Over the term the children have explored living and growing. They have worked together to plant seeds, watched them grow into seedlings and planted them in the vegetable patch. The children harvested their potato plants and got to take some home. The children have showed care and concern for living things in the environment, looking after a shrew, rabbit, birds, squirrels and mini-beasts. During 'Snail and a Whale' book week, the children learnt about how they can save the animals and protect the environment. The children have learnt how to separate rubbish into compost, recycling and general waste. During Forest Schools the children got to bottle feed and stroke, Steven who was 12 week old and Lucy who was 10 weeks old. They got to bottle feed and stroke the lambs.

Minibeasts

This term the children have been exploring different minibeasts. They participated in the EarthWatch Wildlife count. They recorded what wildlife they found and how many. They explored what the differences between beetles, butterflies, moths and bees. Across the term the children have been looking after struggling minibeasts, by gently moving them and giving them drinks so they get strong enough to fly away. The children on recycling week, made their own 'litter bugs' out of recycling from home. The children took pride in showing what they had created in the nursery porch display. During this half term, the children have been watching their Insect Lore caterpillars grow, turn into chrysalis and hatch into butterflies to release into the nursery garden.



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Transition to School

This term, the Rising Stars children have been developing skills to help support their transition to school. They have been learning how to negotiate, challenge each other, get dressed and undressed, develop their confidence in expressing their own needs and ideas. The children have been discussing what school they will be going to, what lunches they may have, what their teacher is called and are excited to go visit their school. The children who have already visited their school, have been so excited to tell their friends what it was like and how much fun they had. The children have listened to stories about going to school and exploring the feeling they may have.

Trips

In June, the children went on a special trip to Avoncroft Museum. The children had a wonderful time and have been talking about it ever since. The children walked safely in pairs, looking after each other. The children helped a lady in her house cook breakfast on an open fire. They counted the eggs and took turns whisking them. The children were able to say which animals the ingredients came from i.e. an egg from a chicken, milk from a cow etc. The children saw an over 500 year old wooden house. The man showed the children how the wooden house was built and put together. They saw an open fire and learnt how to cook food on it and heat the house. The children helped shut the wooden shutters and saw how dark the house was. They learnt that candles were used as light. The children also saw an ice house. They spoke in it and listened to their voice echo. The children were really excited to see the windmill and run around it. The children became one with nature and hugged giant trees. At the end of the trip the children had time at the park, balancing and climbing on the equipment.

We have continued to introduce 2 songs of the week across the term. This has supported the children's language development in a fun way. We will be continuing this next year. We have continued to introduce a book themed investigation station each week. The books were chosen with the children. The investigation stations supported the children's love of stories, illustrations and provided opportunities for them to explore the characters, rhyming words, rhythm, repeated refrain and act out the stories themselves. We will be continuing this next year and we look forward to seeing what books the children choose next.

Summer Stay and Plays

We are holding free stay and play sessions over summer for new starters and children returning in September on:

Tuesday 29 th July	10-11
Wednesday 13 th August	10-11
Thursday 28 th August	10-11



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Events

Graduation – Thursday 17th July

Parents of younger children attending a Thursday will be asked to collect their children at 2 '0' clock. We would also ask the parents of children graduating arrive at 2.25 to start the ceremony. Any rising stars children who do not usually attend a Thursday are welcome to join from 12.00 for a leavers party.

Although graduation is on Thursday, we are still open on Friday 18th July. The older children are still welcome to attend as usual on the Friday however it is up to the parents as sometimes it confuses them due to them having already had their leaving party/ presents.