

Nursery News



Thorney Island Nursery

April 2024

Welcome back!

The summer term has arrived and as mentioned in my email the other day we are welcoming a lot of new children over the next couple of weeks. We have welcomed Percy, Gabriel, Oscar, Reuben, Charlotte, Raya, Ivy, Ronnie and Isabella this week and Charlie, Isla and Oliver are due to start very soon. The children have really enjoyed themselves this week, exploring the activities on offer, getting to know the staff and other children.

Volunteers

- Have you got any hobbies or skills that you could share with the children?
- Can you spare an hour to come and work with a small group of children. Teach them some new skills and see the excitement on their faces.

Maybe a grandparent, aunt or uncle has some time or maybe a family friend. Please let me know if you feel that you have some time and/or can share something with the children and then we can sort out a time and date for you to come and work with them.

Photographer



Our nursery photographer will be coming into nursery from approximately 9.15am on Tuesday 4th June. We would like to invite all the children to have their photo taken, along with any siblings or parents. The children that will be sadly leaving us this summer to start school in September will also be having an individual graduation photo taken along with a group photo. Please come to the office or email me if you would like to make an appointment to bring your child into nursery for their photo and they are not in on 4th June. Children that normally attend nursery on a Tuesday will automatically have theirs taken.

Term dates 2023/2024

- ✓ 15th April '24 – Start of Summer Term
- ✓ 27-31st May – half term
- ✓ 23rd July '24 – end of summer term

Inset days

- ✓ **Friday 24th May '24**
- ✓ **Monday 24th June '24**

Dates for Diary

Photographer – Tuesday 4th June

Cake sale – week com 1st July

Second hand toy and book sale – week com 1st July

Father's Day breakfast – Friday 14th June

Stay and play – 14th May & 11th July.

Open Day – 21st June 10am-12pm

Sports day – week com 8th July (TBC)

Graduation party – 17th July (more details to follow)

Reading time

As promised here are some further dates that we would like to invite you in to read to the children.

Wednesday 8th May and Thursday 6th June. The children love to read and look at different books, so if you have a spare half an hour and would be interested in coming in, then please let me know.



Second hand toy and book sale/cake sale

We would like to run the toy and book sale/cake sale all week, as a fundraising event for the nursery towards new resources for the children. Please could you all look at home and see if you have any unwanted toys or books that you could donate for the sale. We will be accepting donations throughout June for toys and books, and then any cake donations can be brought in from Monday 1st July.

Staffing News!

We have welcomed 2 new staff this week to work with our increasing number of children. Heather is working predominantly with the younger children, and Michelle is working with the preschool children. They are both very enthusiastic and are really enjoying getting to know your children this week. They will be introducing themselves over the coming weeks so, please say hi.

Stay and play

We would like to host a stay and play session on a regular basis and would be able to invite a maximum of 10 parents in at a time for the preschool children and 5 for the younger children. The next date will be Tuesday 14th May from 10.45-11.45am, and then Thursday 11th July 1.30-2.30pm

This is a great opportunity to come and see what the children get involved with on a daily basis. Come and roll up your sleeves and get involved. We look forward to seeing you, please let me know nearer the time if you can come along.

Refer a friend!

We would like to offer a £50 credit on your invoice for anyone that recommends a friend to the nursery. Once they are signed up and have been with us for 3 months then the credit will be applied.

COME AND JOIN OUR COMMITTEE

As a charity run nursery, we are always looking for volunteers to join the committee. This would involve attending meetings, helping, and supporting the nursery. It is your chance to bring ideas, have your say about how the nursery moves forward and be the voice for the parents. Please speak to Karen for further information. We hope that you can help us.

Father's Day breakfast

Sausage baps, tea, or coffee 9am-10am on 14th June

Dads, uncles or grandfathers, please come and join the children for an hour and enjoy a sausage bap, tea or coffee before you go to work. It is also an opportunity for you to join in with the children's play and have a chat with the staff.

Please let me know by 7th June if you can attend.



Free childcare offer

The nursery accepts 2-, 3- & 4-year-old funding. The new 2-year-old funding for 15 hours is available from April '24 for children of working parents. You must be working the equivalent of 16 hours at the national minimum wage and no more than £100,000 per year. A child becomes eligible for this the term after their 2nd birthday.

If you would like to access this funding, then please visit www.gov.uk for how to apply.

3- & 4-year-olds - we accept 15- and 30-hours funding for all 3- and 4-year-olds. Any child aged 3 can access 15 hours funding and for 30 hours funding both parents need to be working with the same eligibility as the 2-year-old funding above.

If you know anyone that might want to join the nursery, please signpost them to our website www.thorneyislandnursery.co.uk

We will also be offering the new funding for 9-month-olds from September '24. The government website is urging parents to start applying for funding from 12th May 2024 when applications open.