

# Oakengates Nursery School



## Newsletter

### Spring Term: Week 4

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a brilliant week.

At nursery, it has been a delight to see the children immerse themselves in the vibrant celebrations of the Chinese New Year, marking the Year of the Snake.

Throughout the week, the children have enthusiastically explored various aspects of Chinese culture. They have sampled traditional Chinese dishes, enjoyed the mesmerizing rhythms of Chinese music and dance, and engaged their creativity by crafting a colourful Chinese dragon. The highlight was their lively performance of a dragon dance, which brought smiles to everyone involved. These activities not only enriched their cultural understanding but also foster a sense of community and celebration.

Wishing you all a fabulous weekend, full of adventures!

Kind Regards,

*Hannah Firmstone*

Early Years Lead & SENCo

# IMPORTANT NEWS



**We are delighted to announce that our nursery is on the move!**

From Monday 24 February 2025, we will be welcoming our children and families to our brand-new setting at **Charlton Street, Oakengates, TF2 6BT** – just half a mile down the road from the current site.

Our team will be working hard over the half-term week to ensure everything is ready for a warm and inviting learning environment.

We can't wait to open our doors and create new memories together in our wonderful new space!

Keep an eye out for further updates, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

**Mrs Jenny Gascoigne,  
Executive Headteacher  
and**

**The Oakengates Nursery School Team**

Follow the link to our website below, for more photos:

<https://www.oakengatesnurseryschool.co.uk/>

## PERSONAL CARE ADVICE

Good morning,

We have recently been notified that a child in the toddler room has been treated for head lice. Head lice in nursery/primary schools is very common and unfortunately all we can do as a nursery is make parents and carers aware.

We rely on you regularly checking and treating your child's hair. Please could you examine your child's hair as it is very important that this is done regularly.

Below are guidelines on treating headlice which explains the options available for treatment. If you find your child does have head lice, please inform either their key person or the office and ensure your child is treated before coming to nursery.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.





## Your Guide to Head Lice

### How to spot Head Lice

In most cases, itching is the main symptom of head lice, it is not caused by the lice biting the scalp but by an allergy to the lice. However, not everyone experiences itching. It is not always easy to see head lice, so detection combing is the best way of finding head lice.

This involves using a special fine-toothed head lice comb to comb through the hair which works better on wet hair but can be used on dry hair.

### Treatment

Head lice can be difficult to treat due to a high re-infestation rate and their ability to develop resistance to traditional insecticides contained in some medications.

After a head lice infestation has been confirmed, you can treat the lice at home by wet combing the hair using a head lice comb or by using medicated lotion. However, neither will protect against re-infestation if head-to-head contact is made with someone with head lice during the treatment period.

- Wet combing - The wet combing method with conditioner involves removing the head lice by systematically combing the hair using a special fine-toothed comb, the comb's teeth should be spaced less than 0.3mm, but at least 0.2mm, apart.

Lice can be trapped between the teeth of nit combs with a tooth spacing of less than 0.19mm and remain unseen, combs are available from pharmacies or online. Medicated products are not necessary for wet combing however, for wet combing to be effective, it involves regular and thorough combing.

- Medicated lotion or spray - Using medicated lotion or spray is an alternative method of treating head lice.

However, no medicated treatment is 100% effective, your pharmacist will be able to recommend an over-the-counter lotion or spray.



- Your child's bedding, clothes, and towels must be washed in warm soapy water and dried in a dryer on the "high heat" cycle. This step must be completed on the same day as above steps.



Any personal items such as toys or stuffed animals which cannot be laundered must be sealed in a plastic bag for two weeks. Although head lice live only on humans, this step will kill any lice or eggs which may have recently fallen off your child's head. Vacuuming carpets and furniture will also help.

### Preventing Head Lice

It's difficult to prevent a head lice infestation regular detection combing on a weekly basis, is the best way to find new lice quickly. Medicated lotions and sprays do not prevent head lice infestations and should only be used if a live louse has been found on yours or your child's head.



- Avoid head-to-head contact during play and other activities at home, school and elsewhere.
- Do not share clothing such as hats, scarves, coats, sports uniforms or hair ribbons.



- Do not share combs, brushes or towels. The use of shampoo and conditioner that contain such oils as tea tree oil, coconut or olive is also recommended as lice do not like the smell.





# KEY DATES



Date	Event
Friday 14th February	Valentines Day
Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February	Nursery closed to all children
Monday 24th February	Grand Opening of the new nursery
Sunday 30th March	Mothers Day
Tuesday 1st April	Incredible Eggs delivering duckling eggs
Friday 11th April	End of Term



## SOCIAL MEDIA

Click on the image to access our facebook page



## Your Child's Learning

Don't forget to check out our website to find out about all the exciting things the children have been learning about this week:



## Admin Office Opening Hours

The office operates from Monday to Thursday, with opening hours from 7:30 AM to 3:45 PM.

On Fridays, the office closes earlier, at 1:00 PM.

Should you need assistance or have any inquiries outside of these hours, you can call the out-of-hours phone on **07340 751171**.

This ensures that support or urgent matters can be attended to even when the office is closed.





**Check out the Better Health,  
Healthier families website!**



This useful website has food facts, recipes, activities and information of children's weight.

**[HTTPS://WWW.NHS.UK/HEALTHIER-FAMILIES/](https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/)**

**Telford Public Health Nursing  
Service  
Healthy you, Healthy Future**

Telephone Number  
0333 358 3328

Text 07520 619 053

School nurse 07520 619 051

Follow on twitter

@ShropPHNurse

Open 9am-4.30pm  
excluding bank holidays

**Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin  
Dental Advice Line**



Do you have an urgent dental problem or need dental advice?

Are you looking for an NHS dentist for routine care?

Monday to Friday  
0800-2100

**01743 237916**

Shropshire Community Health **NHS**



Parents Opening Doors  
'Together we can make a difference'  
<https://www.podstelford.org/>

## Telford and Wrekin **FAMILY HUBS**

**Right help at the right time**

Did you know that 'The Oak Family Hub' is located at The Wakes and offers free help and support to residents who are navigating their way through parenting?



**The Wakes**  
COMMUNITIES COMING TOGETHER



# EARLY HELP



 Telford & Wrekin Cooperative Council | Protect, care and invest to create a better borough  **learn telford**  
adult learning starts here

**FREE**

# Maths

## Functional skills

### Advanced Level

 **City & Guilds**

**Time:** 12 - 2:45pm

**Date:** Monday  
24th Feb 2025 - 14th Jul 2025

**Venue:** Donnington Community Hub,  
TF2 7RB

 Don't worry if the above dates and times don't suit you, there are other venues/days available. For more information visit our website: [www.learntelford.ac.uk](http://www.learntelford.ac.uk)

 **To register please text/call**  
**07866 619328** 

 Telford & Wrekin Cooperative Council | Protect, care and invest to create a better borough  **learn telford**  
adult learning starts here

**FREE**

# Maths

## Functional skills

### Advanced Level

 **City & Guilds**

**Time:** 9:15am -12pm  
or  
12:30 - 2:45pm

**Date:** Wednesday  
26th Feb 2025 - 16th Jul 2025

**Venue:** The Wakes, Oakengates,  
TF2 6EP

 Don't worry if the above dates and times don't suit you, there are other venues/days available. For more information visit our website: [www.learntelford.ac.uk](http://www.learntelford.ac.uk)

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# English

## Functional skills

### Advanced Level

 **City & Guilds**

**Time:** 12 - 2:45pm

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24th Feb 2025 - 14th Jul 2025

**Venue:** Donnington Community Hub,  
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**FREE**

# English

## Functional skills

### Advanced Level

 **City & Guilds**

◆ **Date:** Tuesday  
25th Feb 2025 - 15th Jul 2025  
**Time:** 9:15 - 11am

◆ **Date:** Thursday  
27th Feb 2025 - 17th Jul 2025  
**Time:** 12 - 2:45pm

**Venue:** The Wakes, Oakengates, TF2 6EP

 Don't worry if the above dates and times don't suit you, there are other venues/days available. For more information visit our website: [www.learntelford.ac.uk](http://www.learntelford.ac.uk)

 **For more information & to register please text/call**  
**078666 19328 or visit our** 





**Holiday Activity Programme**

**£2 ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE\***

\*TLC and Festival FIND OUT HOW TO GET ONE HERE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Abraham Darby Sports and Leisure Centre</b>						
1-2pm	1-2pm	1-2pm		1-2pm	2-3pm	1.30-2.30pm
Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**		Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**
					1-3pm	1-3pm
					£1pp Badminton court hire available	
<b>Lawley and Horsehay Village Golf and Fitness Centre</b>						
2-3pm						
Driving Range**						
<b>Newport Swimming and Fitness Centre</b>						
1-2pm	1-2pm	1-2pm	1-2pm			1-2pm
Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**			Fun & Floats**
<b>Oakengates Leisure Centre</b>						
1-1.45pm	1-1.45pm	1-1.45pm	1-1.45pm	1-1.45pm	1.15-2pm	1.15-2pm
Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**	Fun & Floats**
					1-3pm	1-3pm
					£1pp Badminton court hire available	
<b>Telford Snowboard and Ski Centre</b>						
12.30-1pm	12.30-1pm	12.30-1pm	12.30-1pm	12.30-1pm		
Tobogganing*** 5-10yrs old	Tobogganing*** 5-10yrs old	Tobogganing*** 5-10yrs old	Tobogganing*** 5-10yrs old	Tobogganing*** 5-10yrs old		
1.15-1.45pm	1.15-1.45pm	1.15-1.45pm	1.15-1.45pm	1.15-1.45pm		
Tots Donuts*** 3-5yrs old inc	Tots Donuts*** 3-5yrs old inc	Tots Donuts*** 3-5yrs old inc	Tots Donuts*** 3-5yrs old inc	Tots Donuts*** 3-5yrs old inc		
<p>**All children under 8 must be accompanied by a responsible person aged 16yrs+            ***Arms and legs must be covered and gloves are essential. No sandals/flip-flops.</p>						
<b>Telford Tennis Centre</b>						
2-3pm						
Tennis						

**BOOK ONLINE HERE**



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TODDLERS & SCREEN TIME

The toddler years are full of excitement, exploration and energy. It's a critical time in children's development, when brain connections are rapidly forming. Youngsters often begin to discover devices around this age, as they learn to communicate with friends, play games and watch videos (Ofcom recently found, for example, that one in five 3-4-year-olds in the UK uses social media). These activities can make a child happy and relaxed but have a damaging impact if overused. Setting screen time limits for toddlers can be a challenge, so we've pulled together some suggestions for making sure your little one is interacting with the online world in a safe, healthy way.

## ONLINE SAFETY CHECKLIST

### ✓ PARENTAL CONTROLS

Children need to be shielded from content that's not age appropriate. You can do this by adjusting parental controls and safe search settings on the devices, apps and games they use.

### ✓ ONGOING SUPERVISION

Try to stay engaged and present in what your child is doing digitally. Make time to talk about what they enjoy and how they can stay safe online.

### ✓ OFFERING HELP

Teach your toddler to ask for help – and that they should always tell a trusted adult if they're unsure about anything to do with a device, or they see or hear something that makes them scared or upset.

### ✓ COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Emphasise that your child should check with you before they do anything online for the first time – such as watching a new show, playing a new game or exploring a new app.

### ✓ FACE TO FACE IS ACE

Support toddlers' development of language and other skills by prioritising games or apps that encourage face-to-face interaction – like learning to read or count with an adult.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MODEL IT

Your toddler is watching and learning from you whenever you pick up your phone. Even babies are aware of screens and the attention their parents give to them. By showing you know when to put your phone down and focus on something else, you're modelling an important behaviour for them.

### CONTROL IT

Use tech to control tech. Most devices and individual apps have settings that allow you to restrict screen time. Decide on the right length of time and use the settings or a timer to block access. This is especially useful for very young children, who simply see it as the device 'turning off'.

### ANNOUNCE IT

When a toddler's screen shuts off suddenly, it can lead to frustration and tears. Let your little one mentally prepare for the end of screen time by announcing they have five minutes left, two minutes left and so on. You could also set an egg-timer, alarm or buzzer to go off just before time's up.

### DELAY IT

Try to avoid letting children start their day with screen time. Once they're online, it can be hard to get them back offline – and can set a negative tone for the rest of the day. Routine and structure are important for toddlers, so encourage them to enjoy some other activities before the screens go on.

### TRADE IT

You could try offering rewards and alternatives in exchange for screen time – for example, having a device-free day to get a playdate with a friend at the weekend, or skipping screen time one evening in return for a trip to the ice cream parlour tomorrow.

### EARN IT

Screen time can definitely be used as a reward. You could opt for the classic "no screen time until you've tidied up your toys" or you could get creative and award screen time in relation to successful tasks: eating all of their vegetables earns 10 minutes on their device, for example.

### REMOVE IT

Keep family mealtimes, social gatherings, children's bedrooms and other important occasions and places screen free. Remember to turn off TVs that you aren't watching, because even background noise can distract from you spending quality face-to-face time with your young ones.

### SWAP IT

Put together a bag of things that your children love playing with – and get them to help choose what goes in there (items like stickers, pens, small toys, Lego or teddy bears are ideal). Then encourage them to pick something to play with from "the special bag of fun" instead of staring at a screen.

## Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is the director of FaceUp South Africa: a reporting system currently being used to combat bullying in schools and businesses around the world. FaceUp helps to give a voice to bystanders by encouraging them to speak up against unacceptable behaviour.

