January 2026 Newsletter

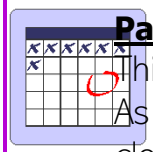
Happy New Year!

Reception Class Applications:

If your child's date of birth is between 01/09/2021 and 31/08/2022 then the deadline to apply for their Reception Class School is NEXT WEEK.
School applications will close on 15th January 2026. You must apply before this date!
To apply please visit: www.slough.gov.uk/admissions
If you need help with your application, please speak with Sarah in the school office.

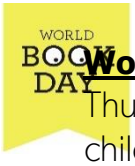
Communication App:

All parents have been asked to download the 'Eduspot' app, to allow text communication between yourself and the nursery. We still have a few parents who haven't downloaded it, so this is a gentle reminder. You are missing notifications from the nursery!



Parent Consultations:

This Term's parent chat's will be taking place on Wednesday 25th March 2026.
As all keyworkers will be meeting with parents on the same day, the nursery will be closed to the children. Booking details to follow soon.



World Book Day:

Thursday 5th March 2026 is World Book Day, and we will be celebrating by inviting children to come to nursery dressed as their favourite book character. A voluntary donation is welcome and will go towards the end of Summer celebrations. All children will be given a £1 book voucher.

Nut Allergy

Please ensure that you don't send your child into nursery with any kind of nut, or nut product. This message is aimed at all parents, not only those of children who attend our lunch club, but also to those parents who put snacks in their child's bag that is brought in each day. No food from home is allowed on the nursery site unless your child is staying for lunch club. Nut-based products range from staple items like nut butters (peanut, almond, cashew) and milks (almond, hazelnut) to ingredients in baked goods, sauces (pesto, satay), confectionery (marzipan, pralines), snacks (trail mix, granola bars).

Illness and the outdoors

There is always a concern that if children get wet or play in the cold that they will become ill. This is a myth that many people have grown up with. Research has proven that cold outdoor temperatures and being wet does not put us at any greater risk of getting catching a cold, cough or getting sick. Viruses make us sick. These viruses are more easily transmitted indoors, which is where we tend to spend more time during the colder months and during inclement weather. Studies have shown that children who are active outside have the best overall health. Physical activity gives your immune system a power surge for a full 24 hours. A stronger immune system leads to less illness and less use of antibiotics. Outdoor play helps to stimulate a child's immune system, create healthy sleep patterns, and encourages creative thinking and fundamental movement skills. A rainy play session stimulates the brain by exposing children to sights, sounds, smells, and textures they would not otherwise experience.

Outside Play:

At Chalvey Nursery School we believe that every moment is a learning opportunity. We know that children learn through outdoor play whatever the weather, which complements and enhances their indoor learning. The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, which is dictated by the government, states 'Providers must provide access to an outdoor play area'. For this reason, children are able to choose between playing inside and outside for most of the Nursery session regardless of temperature or weather. We will never stop children playing outside because of the weather.

Through outdoor play we aim to:

- Promote good quality, challenging, safe and accessible play for all children.
- Provide well-planned engaging activities, complimenting those indoors.
- Provide an environment to extend and improve children's learning and well-being regardless of the weather.
- Make the most of an environment over which we have little control.
- Fulfil the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage

The outdoors also provides learning, teaching and caring opportunities where children can:

- Be independent.
- Be inventive and creative.
- Make their own choices and decisions
- Take risks and solve problems
- Learn and play in diverse groupings, which are not always controlled or supported by an adult.

- Develop individual interests and find own boundaries.
- Communicate, co-operate and negotiate with others.
- Experience a sense of adventure, excitement and fun.
- Develop fine and gross-motor skills
- Develop physical skills for supporting emotional wellbeing.
- Develop an appreciation of things seen, touched, smelt and heard.
- Develop a sense of awe and wonder in the natural world.
- Experience the seasons in all their richness.
- Engage in new experiences.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 15th January 2026	Deadline for Reception Applications for September 2026
Friday 13th February 2026	Last Day of Spring 1
Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026	Half Term – Nursery Closed
Monday 23rd February 2026	Start of Spring 2
Thursday 26th and Friday 27th February 2026	INSET Days – Nursery Closed
Wednesday 25th March 2026	Parent Consultations – Nursery Closed to Children
Thursday 26th March 2026	Easter Rhyme Time
Friday 27th March 2026	Last Day of Spring 2 – Shorter Session Times
Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026	Half Term – Nursery Closed
Monday 13th April 2026	Start of Summer 1
Wednesday 22nd April 2026	Farm Visit to Nursery
Wednesday 13th May 2026	Balance Bikes Activity Day
Friday 22nd May 2026	Last Day of Summer 1
Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026	Half Term – Nursery Closed
Monday 1st June 2026	Start of Summer 2
Wednesday 17th June 2026	Reptile Visit to Nursery
Friday 3rd July 2026	Summer Garden Party – Parents Invited – Details to Follow
Wednesday 8th July 2026	Parent Consultations – Nursery Closed to Children – Details to Follow
Tuesday 14th July 2026	Summer Rhyme Time
Friday 17th July 2026	Last Day for Children – Shorter Session Times

The safeguarding of children is of the utmost importance.
If you have any cause for concern, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Team:

Miss Lister – Safeguarding Lead
Miss Hualde – Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Mr Siddiqui – Safeguarding Governor