

Oaklea St John's
28th November 2023



Dear Parents,

What a lovely Autumn!

The children have enjoyed some lovely autumn activities and it children have been enjoying warm autumn walks, exploring the colours of autumn, autumn crafts etc. As the season changes and the weather cools, please make sure that children arrive with suitable **named** clothing for being outdoors. This includes wearing warm wellies with easy-to-put-on-slippers in their drawstring bags. Please also remember gloves and scarves. This way, the children can continue to benefit from outdoor activities in all weathers.

Christmas

During the last week of term, we will be having children's Christmas parties – a few games, party snack food and a visit from Father Christmas.



Oaklea Ramsey

It is with great sadness, that we will be saying goodbye to our sister setting from Spring 2024. A current alternative childcare provider is being sought to take over the running of the setting.

Funding forms

Funding forms are now ready to fill in for your child's funded sessions for the new term, please make sure these are filled in and returned to the nursery a.s.a.p.

May we remind you that during the Christmas closure, half fees are payable according to the payment policy.

Fundraising

With the rising costs of running a nursery and lack of funding, it would be good to set up a fundraising team to support Oaklea Montessori. Please let Dawn or Carla know or email dawn@oakleamontessori.co.uk if you are interested in supporting the nursery this way.

Reminder: School Applications

Applications for school can be applied from 6th November 2023 and needs to be completed and submitted by the national closing date of 15th January 2024.

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions-to-essex-schools-for-the-next-school-year>

Absences

Although nursery attendance is not statutory, it is important for parents/carers to report their child's absence to nursery on the first day. Nursery has to follow guidelines set out by the local authority regarding the regular attendance of all children. Please report all absences on our landline number 01255 880135 If you are planning a holiday, please fill in a form that the duty manager can give you or email stJohns@oakleamontessori.co.uk. Thank you for your understanding.

Toys

When children first start at nursery, they may want to bring a comfort/toy from home. As they settle, they will no longer need to bring toys from home. Often they can even be a hindrance (possibly broken, spoiled, played with by another child or even preventing them engaging with nursery equipment). Please consider keeping toys at home and bringing them at pickup time. *Thank you!*

And last of all, thank you for all your support this last term. We hope you all enjoy a Christmas that is joy-full, peace-full and rest-full!

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Lewis
Setting Manager

Carla Gunn
Deputy Manager

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2023

Last day of Term Friday 15th December for ALL children

Christmas Shutdown – Monday 18th December to Monday 1st January inclusive

Spring Term 2024

Tuesday 2nd January – Thursday 28th March (Term time restarts 8th January)

Tuesday 2nd January – All year children back

Monday 8th January 2024 – Term Time Children Back

Half term week commencing Monday 19th February.

Staff Training Day – Thursday 29th February (Closed for ALL Children)

Good Friday: Friday 29th March Closed for All Children

Easter Monday – Monday 1st April Closed for All Children

Easter Break – Tuesday 2nd April – Friday 12th April inclusive

Summer Term 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 19th July

Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May Closed for ALL Children

Bank Holiday – Monday 27th May Closed for ALL Children

Half term week commencing Tuesday 28th May.