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Summer Term 2026 Newsletter

Diary Dates

- **Half term** - Monday 25th May to Tuesday 2nd June, **Monday 1st June is an INSET day.**

- **Friday 10th July – Sponsored Family Nature Walk and Play in the Park - No preschool session on this day**

Join us from 9am for a Wake & Shake warm up in the garden - setting off at approximately 9:15am.

We will walk the canal and then through the meadow to Castle Park. The route is subject to change and a risk assessment will be carried out on the day.

Please note, although WPS staff will be in attendance, children will remain under parental supervision throughout this event.

If the weather is nice, we will stay for a play in the park after the walk. Please remember to bring sunscreen, a hat, drinks, and snacks. Afterwards, families may wish to stay a longer and enjoy a picnic together, weather permitting. Just to note that the picnic would be an informal get-together arranged between families and is not organised by the preschool.

- **Last day of Summer term** - Thursday 16th July, finishing at 12.30pm, **no afternoon session.**

- **Sunshine Group Graduation and School Leavers Party (No Preschool Session)** - Friday 17th July. - Graduation, 9 to 9.30am - Leavers party, from 9.30am - More details to follow.

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Antiques Fair

Every third Thursday of the month the main hall is used for an antiques fair. The car park and surrounding area will be very busy, please take extra care and allow time for parking.

Antiques Summer term dates

Thursday 16th April 2026 - Thursday 21st May 2026 - Thursday 18th June 2026

Guidelines for Illness and Collection

If your child is unwell and needs one to one care, needs Calpol (or similar), or is not able to take part in daily activities, we kindly ask that they are kept at home so they can rest and recover.

If your child becomes unwell at preschool, we will contact you and ask for prompt collection (within 15 minutes). This helps us to continue supporting all children safely and maintain appropriate staffing levels.

Please ensure someone on your emergency contact list is available to collect at short notice. To help us keep your child safe, **anyone** collecting your child **must** know your password.

Moving to Big School

For those who have applied for primary school places, allocations have now been released.

Please email Admin Tracey as soon as you know your offer so we can begin the transition process with your child's school. This is important even if you are going to appeal.

Schools will contact us in time, however we like to begin the transition process as soon as possible. As you know, for us, school readiness means schools being ready for our children - not the other way around!

Potty 'Learning'

Those of you who have spoken with me about this before will know that I have always believed in taking a child-led approach to toileting. We may have talked to you about the importance of listening carefully, watching for children's cues, and supporting them to begin understanding their own bodies. When children can recognise these feelings and start to connect them with using the toilet, the process becomes much more meaningful and successful.

What has evolved more recently is the language and shared understanding around this approach. You may hear the term "potty learning" instead of "potty training." This reflects the idea that toileting is a developmental process that happens over time, rather than something children achieve all at once. A key part of this approach is starting early, **before** children are ready to be without a nappy, so that toileting becomes a familiar and normal part of their everyday routine. Toileting is most successful when a child's body awareness, physical control, and emotional readiness all come into alignment, allowing them to recognise their body's signals, respond to them, and manage the routine with confidence.

Through early, repeated exposure, children become comfortable with the language, expectations, and process, so that by the time these elements are in place, toileting already feels understood and familiar.

At home, you can support this approach by making the potty part of your child's daily routine. Keep it accessible, talk about it in a calm and encouraging way, and offer regular chances to use it, such as after meals or before bath time. Following your child's cues is important; some days they may be interested, and other days not at all. This is a normal part of learning. Praising small steps, like sitting on the potty or telling you they need a change, helps build confidence over time.

Even after children move into pants, they may still need occasional support. In a busy preschool environment, it is natural for children to become absorbed in play and miss early body signals, and accidents are a normal part of this stage. Responding calmly and positively helps build confidence and independence.

Starting early and making toileting part of a regular routine helps children become familiar with their body's signals over time, long before they are fully independent. By working together and viewing this as a gradual learning process, we can create a positive, low-pressure experience that supports each child's development and growing confidence.

Care for a Smile

Has your child had their first visit to the dentist? With nearly 9 out of 10 hospital tooth extractions for children under 5 caused by preventable tooth decay, regular dental check ups are very important. It is also helpful to support children in building a positive relationship with dental visits.

For more information on children's dental hygiene, regular check ups, and finding a local dentist, please visit [taking care of children's teeth](#). If several children attend the same dental practice, we may be able to arrange freebies or a visit from the dental team to talk about oral hygiene. Please let us know the name of your dentist.

Here Comes the Sun

We use a UV checker to monitor daily UV levels and support sun safety. When the UV index is 3 or above, children **must** have sunscreen applied before the start of their session. This includes overcast days, as up to 80 percent of UV rays can pass through cloud cover. If your child arrives without sunscreen, you will be asked to apply it (from the basket in the foyer) before they begin their session.

If your child stays all day, we will reapply sunscreen after lunch. If your child needs a specific product, please clearly label it with their name and send it in.

We understand the wish to protect children's eyes, however we cannot check that sunglasses meet correct UV standards. They can also be a safety risk during active play and are easily lost or broken. For these reasons, please do not send sunglasses in. As an alternative, please ensure your child has a named sunhat in their bag each day.

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Dressing for a Day of Play

During garden play, children may take part in water activities, especially in warmer weather. We encourage the use of aprons and try to avoid children getting very wet, however sleeves or clothes may still become damp - and some children will choose not to access certain activities if we insist on an apron. We support children to change if needed and encourage them to tell us if they feel uncomfortable.

Children also have access to paint and mud during play, so please dress them in clothes suitable for messy activities.

Autumn Term

We are now offering places to new children for the autumn term. If you would like to add sessions for your child, please let us know by Monday 20th April.

If we don't hear from you, we will assume you're happy for your child's sessions to remain as they are, although we may not be able to offer additional sessions after this date.

Car Parking Permits

We kindly ask that car park permits are clearly displayed in your vehicle. These allow you to park at the Memorial Hall for drop-off and collection on the days your child attends. You are also welcome to use the car park to drop or collect siblings from the schools on campus on those same days.

If someone else is dropping off or collecting your child, please ensure they also have a permit displayed. If you need any additional permits, just let us know.

The Memorial Hall committee may check cars on occasion, to ensure spaces are used appropriately, as unauthorised parking is an ongoing concern.

Miss Sharon's Top Tips and Ideas

You should have now received your Top Tips and Ideas sheet, tailored to your child's current stage (Settling, Flourishing, or Sunshines). It includes simple ideas to support learning at home.

We encourage you to use this alongside preschool to support your child's development. Working together helps create the best learning experience.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or notice any broken links, please let us know.

Summer Adventures

The summer term brings a mix of emotions as we look ahead to the next educational stage for some of our children. It is a time of pride as we reflect on how much they have grown and



developed, but also a time that can feel bittersweet as we prepare to say goodbye and see them move on to new settings and experiences.

However, we aim to make the most of the warmer weather, spending time in the garden and taking part in outdoor learning experiences. We are also really looking forward to our sponsored nature walk, which we love, as it gives staff and families the chance to come together (including grandparents, aunts, uncles, and siblings and friends), to spend quality time alongside the children. It is a lovely opportunity for everyone to be outdoors together, sharing a relaxed experience while the children explore their surroundings and enjoy learning through curiosity and play.

Miss Sharon and team 🌻

Quick Summary – Key Dates & Actions

<p>Please let us know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Autumn term session requests by Monday 20th April<input type="checkbox"/> Your child's school place offer (if applicable)<input type="checkbox"/> Your dentist's name	<p>Remember to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Apply sunscreen before sessions when UV is 3 or above● Send a named sunhat every day● Ensure your car park permit is displayed● Make sure emergency contacts are available for collection if needed● Dress children in clothes suitable for messy play
<p>Dates for your diary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Half term: 25th May – 2nd June (INSET 1st June)● Nature Walk: Friday 10th July (no preschool session)● Last day of term: Thursday 16th July (12:30 finish)● Graduation & Leavers Party: Friday 17th July	

Thank you as always for your support 🧡