

SPRING TERM 2026



WELCOME BACK!

We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas break. We're really pleased to welcome new families to Lake View this term — it's lovely to see our nursery community growing! We have an exciting term ahead!

In this newsletter, you'll find:

- Key dates for your diary
- Staff team updates
- A peek at what we've got planned for the term ahead.

Don't forget, you can keep up with all the nursery fun and updates by following us on Facebook:

[@lakeviewnursery](#)

As always, if you have any questions, feedback or suggestions, we'd love to hear from you.

The Lake View Team



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Monday 5th January 2026

Spring Term starts.

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February

Half-Term (Term-time only children cannot attend).

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

Easter Break (Term-time only children cannot attend)

Friday 3rd April- Bank Holiday- CLOSED

Monday 6th April- Bank Holiday-CLOSED

Monday 13th April

Summer Term starts.

Please see the poster in the outside noticeboard for the full list of 2026 closures and half-terms, plus any other important dates.

Events and celebration dates for the term are also listed within this Newsletter.

Reminders/Updates

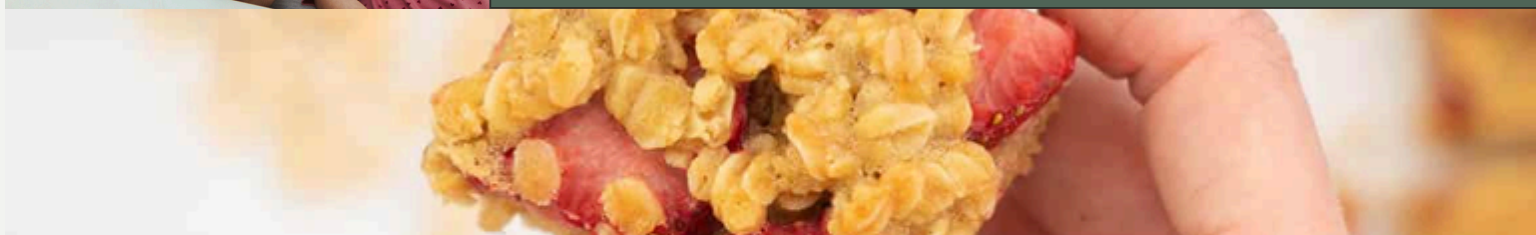


Uploading to Tapestry. Home Learning/Experiences

We love to see what your child has been doing at home and we will often follow on from this in nursery—so please do upload observations to Tapestry. This might be an important milestone, a funny moment, or a special family occasion.

What want you to share:

- Milestones (new words/steps, using the potty, writing their name)
- New interests (dinosaurs, music, cooking, a favourite story)
- Trips and celebrations (park, museum, birthdays, cultural events)
- Wow moments (counting objects, recognising letters, helping at home)



Taste and Test

Each month we invite you to try one of our current menu dishes and pick up a recipe card to take home. You'll find this month's taster in the corridor. Please pop your feedback on the whiteboard, and let us know if you recreate it at home!

✂️ Keep Us Updated

Just a gentle reminder to let us know via a quick email if any of your personal details have changed, including emergency contacts, permitted collection list, or home address. Keeping this information up to date helps us keep your child safe and ensures we can contact you when needed. Thank you! ❤️



Hayley has now left to commence her Maternity Leave from January. We can't wait to meet the new arrival!

Sarah has joined the Management Team in her new role as Senior Supervisor- You may have seen Sarah around during December. Sarah will be working closely with the rooms as well as in the office.



Eleanor has joined us in January as our New Pre School Room Leader. She is a strong leader and has a wealth of knowledge and experience. Eleanor also joins us as a fully qualified Forest School Leader.

Staff News



OPENING OF OUR NEW

PRE-SCHOOL CLASSROOM

SPRING TERM 2026

As we look ahead to 2026, we're thrilled to share some of the exciting developments taking shape across our nursery. This year has brought several staff changes within the class, and we want to thank you sincerely for your support and understanding throughout these transitions. We are ready to move forward with fresh energy and a clear vision for Spring 2026. We will be creating new spaces and developing current classrooms with fresh layouts and resources.

As we navigate through this period of change and improvements, we will keep you updated at every stage and welcome your input and ideas.

NEW PRESCHOOL LAY OUT

Opening soon...

We are building a second Preschool classroom for our current children. This will enable us to split the room into two small groups creating more age appropriate spaces and ensuring targeted support. The resources and lay outs of both rooms will be re-designed and carefully planned out to meet the needs of the younger preschoolers and the children getting ready for school.

We are hoping for this to be installed and open as soon as we can during the first couple of months of 2026 we are just organising builders. We will keep you updated when the building work will start and please let us know if you have any contacts who could help with ground works!



Our plan is to separate the class into younger and older groups to provide more targeted, individual support and learning. We know friendships are important, so the whole Preschool class will still come together for extracurricular activities, events, celebrations, and shared playtimes. Staff will take key children in their new groups but will continue to work across both rooms, so you'll still see all the familiar faces.

More details of plans and dates will be given in due course and we will work with all families for a smooth transition..



TEAM NEWS

Sadly Charlotte has now left to move to a position within the local authority housing departments. We wish her all the very best on her career move.

Eleanor has joined us in January. She is a strong leader and has a wealth of knowledge and experience. Eleanor also joins us as a fully qualified Forest School Leader.

As Hayley is now on Maternity Leave we have Sarah joining us within the senior team. You will see Sarah around the classrooms lots as she will be hands on for quality assurance and helping with all of the changes.

We are currently recruiting for Preschool as we like to keep our ratios low but we will keep you updated with new staff starting.



www.lakeviewnursery.co.uk

Plans for the next term...

We've got a busy and exciting term ahead! Here's a little look at what's coming up:

Parent Partnership Events: We'll be holding these over two sessions for each room. You'll receive an email invitation to join your child in nursery for a one-hour visit, find out more about what we get up to and get to know the team. Dates and booking details will be emailed closer to the time.

Extra-Curricular Sessions:

Forest School

Football Tots

Popcats

Pedro

The dates for each of the sessions will be displayed each month on our Noticeboard. You will also be informed by email of dates for any upcoming trips and outings we have planned for the coming term.

Events & Celebrations:

26th January - Australia Day

31st January- National Hot Chocolate Day

6th February - National Wear Red Day (Children's Heart Surgery Fund)

14th February- Valentine's Day

17th February - Chinese New Year (Year of the Horse) (Ends 3rd March)

17th February - Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)

1st March- St David's Day

13th March- World Sleep Day

15th March- Mother's Day

18th March- End of Ramadan

18th March- Beep Beep! Road Safety Day

20th March- Red Nose Day (Comic Relief)

Please keep a lookout on the planning boards and for any notices throughout the term regarding how we will be celebrating these occasions.

Termly Focus Plans for Spring...

Babies Termly Focus			TERM: <i>Spring 2026</i>	KEY EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS
PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL	COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE	PHYSICAL		
Focus: Forms strong, secure attachments with familiar adults and confidently seeks comfort, reassurance, or support when needed.	Focus: Shows interest in familiar words, sounds, and gestures, responding to their name and simple language used by adults.	Focus: Develops confidence in moving their body, including crawling, cruising, standing, and early walking.		6th February: National Wear Red Day (Children's Heart Surgery Fund)
Extend further... Shows growing confidence to move away from their key person to explore, returning for reassurance. Begins to show awareness of familiar routines and transitions within the day.	Extend further... Begins to use single words or consistent sounds to label people, objects, or actions, particularly during repeated routines and core stories.	Extend further... Uses furniture and equipment purposefully to pull up, move along, climb, and explore balance and coordination.		14th February: Valentine's Day
How? Provide a safe, inviting environment with sensory and physical opportunities. Calm, predictable routines. Dedicated time with staff in small groups.	How? Daily sharing of core books and familiar rhymes. Repetition of key words linked to routines (e.g. "coat on", "shoes", "all done"). Singing and story sessions in small, calm groups.	How? Daily access to soft play and low-level furniture, tables and chairs on carpet. Adult encouragement and reassurance. Opportunities indoors and outdoors to practise movement.		17th February: Start of Ramadan
LITERACY	MATHEMATICS	UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD	EXPRESSIVE ARTS & DESIGN	17th February: Shrove Tuesday (Pancake day)
Focus: Engages with books through handling, looking, and listening alongside a familiar adult.	Focus: Beginning to stack and build with blocks or objects on flat surfaces, often with adult support.	Focus: Explores the environment with curiosity, using senses to investigate objects, spaces, and materials.	Focus: Explores materials using their senses (touching, mouthing, squeezing, banging).	1st March: St David's Day
Extend further... Shows anticipation during repeated phrases in core stories and familiar rhymes, responding with sounds, movements, or words.	Extend further... Building taller towers and experimenting with balancing and arranging objects independently.	Extend further... Begins to make connections through repeated experiences, recognising familiar objects, places, and routines.	Extend further... Engages more confidently in messy and sensory play, exploring textures, marks, and movements, and showing curiosity about changes they make.	15th March: Mothers Day
How? Repetition of core books and linked activities (key words).	How? Through a range of blocks and stackable objects of different sizes and textures.	How? Opportunities to explore inside/outside. Cause and effect. Repeated exploration/messy play.	How? Regular messy play. Floor-based exploration. Time/repetition of activities for confidence.	18th March: End of Ramadan
CORE BOOKS				20th March: Red Nose Day (Comic Relief)
"Dear Zoo" by Rod Campbell Great for lifting flaps, animal names, and anticipation. Repetition & Participation	"That's Not My..." series by Fiona Watt Sensory-focused books that support descriptive language and early touch exploration.			5th April: Easter Sunday
				11th April: World Pet Day

★ What is a Termly Focus?

Each term, we look closely at all children's development across the nursery. If we notice common gaps or areas where children need extra practice, we incorporate these into the room's Termly Focus.

📚 Why do we do this?

A termly focus helps us make sure our curriculum is consistent across all rooms. It ensures children get extra support in the skills they need most, while still enjoying their play and learning.

👤 How does it work?

- Managers and room leaders meet to review progress.
- A key area of development is chosen (for example: turn-taking, communication, or early maths).
- This focus is woven into weekly planning in every room.

Toddler Termly Focus			TERM: <i>Spring 2026</i>	KEY EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS FOR THE TERM
PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL	COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE	PHYSICAL		
Focus: Building confidence within the room, beginning to feel secure taking part in group routines such as carpet time & small group activities.	Focus: Uses a growing range of simple words to communicate needs, choices, and interests.	Focus: Develops independence in self-care routines, including feeding and dressing. Use the coat flip trick.		6th February: National Wear Red Day (Children's Heart Surgery Fund)
Extend further... Begins to engage in simple cooperative play, such as sharing resources, taking turns with adult support, and joining short play sequences with peers.	Extend further... Begins to use simple phrases and combine words during play and routines (e.g. "more water", "me help"). Listens and responds to familiar instructions.	Extend further... Uses a knife and fork independently at mealtimes, pours own drinks at snack, and finds personal belongings such as coat, shoes, and bottle. Attempts dressing skills such as removing shoes and putting arms into coats.		14th February: Valentine's Day
How? Use small confidence-building groups for carpet time, stories, and singing and gradually extend time spent in group activities.	How? Repeat and extend children's speech. Use songs, rhymes, and repetitive stories daily. Create opportunities for communication during snack, self-care, and play.	How? Encourage children to serve themselves at snack time. Allow time and encouragement for dressing attempts. Celebrate independence rather than speed.		17th February: Start of Ramadan
LITERACY	MATHEMATICS	UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD	EXPRESSIVE ARTS & DESIGN	17th February: Shrove Tuesday (Pancake day)
Focus: Enjoys listening to familiar stories, songs, and rhymes.	Focus: Explores quantity and capacity through everyday routines.	Focus: Explores the environment and everyday objects with curiosity.	Focus: Explores sound, movement, and materials through sensory play.	1st March: St David's Day
Extend further... Anticipates repeated phrases and joins in with actions, sounds, or words during well-known stories and rhymes.	Extend further... Begins to understand concepts such as full, empty, more, and all gone when pouring drinks or using containers during play.	Extend further... Talks about similarities and differences, shows curiosity about the wider world, and begins to reflect on experiences shared through stories and discussions.	Extend further... Shows increasing control when using tools and instruments such as shakers, drums, hammers, and mark-making resources.	15th March: Mothers Day
How? Share core stories daily, smaller groups for story time, use story props and socks.	How? Use jugs at snack time to pour. Use jugs and containers at sensory/play to pour and fill. Talk about quantity at opportunities such as snack time.	How? Provide real-life resources such as a jug, tools, and switches. Hands-on experiences (forest schools, etc), talk through actions and outcomes.	How? Forest schools/patches/pods. Model different ways to use resources. Using different tools in playdough, clay etc.	18th March: End of Ramadan
CORE BOOKS				20th March: Red Nose Day (Comic Relief)
Supports early communication, animal recognition, and prediction skills through flaps and repeated phrases in a fun, engaging format.	Supports early counting, healthy choices, and understanding of growth and change through vibrant illustrations.	Supports confidence, resilience, and emotional understanding through a gentle story about finding your voice and believing in yourself.	Encourages movement, memory, and language development through a repetitive, story-like participation.	5th April: Easter Sunday
				11th April: World Pet Day

Preschool Termly Focus			TERM: <i>Spring 2026</i>	KEY EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS FOR THE TERM
PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL	COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE	PHYSICAL		
Focus: Develops awareness of feelings and begins to manage emotions with adult support, following clear expectations and routines.	Focus: Listens attentively during group times and responds appropriately to familiar questions and instructions.	Focus: Manages personal care routines independently, including toileting, handwashing, dressing, and mealtimes.		26th January: Australia Day
Extend further... Takes turns, shares resources, and begins to resolve simple conflicts appropriately. Shows respect for peers, adults, and the learning environment, understanding the reasons for rules.	Extend further... Speaks confidently in a range of situations, using full sentences to share ideas, ask questions, and take part in group discussions.	Extend further... Shows confidence and responsibility for their own belongings, organising themselves independently for routines such as outdoor play and snack.		6th February: National Wear Red Day (Children's Heart Surgery Fund)
How? Visual timetable, now and next, praise linked to behaviour, use of emotion language and visuals, core book - colour monster.	How? Daily carpet times with predictable structure. Talk opportunities linked to core books. Turn-taking games and circle-time discussions. Encouraging children to speak in front of peers in a safe, supportive way.	How? Clearly labelled pegs, drawers etc. Predictable routine. Now and next. Visual timetable.		14th February: Valentine's Day
LITERACY	MATHEMATICS	UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD	EXPRESSIVE ARTS & DESIGN	17th February: Shrove Tuesday (Pancake day)
Focus: Recognises their own name and shows interest in print within the environment.	Focus: Uses number names in play and routines and begins to recognise numbers and shapes.	Focus: Shows awareness of familiar routines, roles, and experiences within the setting.	Focus: Uses imagination during play, expressing ideas through role play, drawing, and creative materials.	1st March: St David's Day
Extend further... Gives meaning to marks, forms recognisable shapes and letters, and begins to attempt writing their own name and familiar words.	Extend further... Counts reliably with one-to-one correspondence, recognises simple patterns, names basic shapes, and uses early problem-solving skills during play.	Extend further... Talks about similarities and differences, shows curiosity about the wider world, and begins to reflect on experiences shared through stories and discussions.	Extend further... Uses creative activities to explore emotions, routines, and real-life scenarios, working collaboratively with peers.	15th March: Mothers Day
How? Name cards used in games, snack time etc. Free access mark-making, writing linked to play (shopping lists, post office letters etc) Letter formation in small groups.	How? Daily counting opportunities (register, snack, tidy-up). Number/shape focus activities in small groups. Games involving matching, sorting, and pattern-making.	How? Exploring feelings, behaviour and choices through core stories. Discussions linked to core stories.	How? Role play linked to real-life routines (school, home, community). Open-ended creative resources. Adult support to extend play language and cooperation.	18th March: Beep Beep Road Safety Day
CORE BOOKS				20th March: Red Nose Day (Comic Relief)
Builds language, memory, confidence through rhythm, repetition, & adventurous storytelling.	Supports emotional understanding, rhyming, language, and storytelling.	Promotes self-belief, resilience, & celebrating differences through rhythm, rhyme, & a heartwarming story.	Supports emotional awareness & easing transitions by exploring feelings around starting school in a gentle, visual way.	5th April: Easter Sunday
				11th April: World Pet Day

🎯 What does it mean for your child?

Your child will take part in fun, small-group or whole-room activities linked to the focus. It's not about pressure—it's about giving all children the same opportunities to practise important skills.