

Aclet Close Nursery School, Aclet Close, Bishop Auckland,

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APRIL & MAY 2022



We hope you all enjoyed the few days of sunshine ☺ Let's hope there are lots more sunny days to come!

The Summer Term is usually our busiest in the school calendar with new friends and lots of lovely opportunities for the children...

Changes in staff working hours...

Due to an increase in the number of children on roll and to cover a member of staff's long term sick leave, we have needed to have a shuffle with our staffing. As well as working in our 2s room on a morning, Miss Todd will now also work afternoons in our main nursery room (with our afternoon children) Mrs Emberson will work Wednesdays to support swimming lessons and Thursdays and Fridays with our '30 hours' children, instead of afternoons.

Assessment/Learning Journals/Parent Consultations...

We now have almost all parents/carers added to our Learning Journals assessment system. If you have not yet been added, we just need your email address, please ring Mrs Ellis in the office to share it with us. We are using this new assessment system to observe 'spotlight children' and document their learning and development milestones. These twice yearly conversations will replace our offer of termly parent/carer consultations.

Please keep an eye out for a survey monkey text where we will arrange a convenient time to ring you.

July 22 leavers...

Before we know it, our big girls and boys will be leaving us to start Reception Class in Primary School! Mrs Staines will be holding 2 workshops, School Readiness and Phonics, which will support parents/carers of children who will be leaving us in July 22 to start Primary School. Dates to follow.

We will also be holding a 'Mini Graduation' - save the date - **Wednesday 20th July**.

Healthy Eating...

Did you know that it is really important for children to eat nutritious food in order for good health and development?

Our school website is regularly being updated and our section about Healthy Eating (on the drop down menu under Parents) includes advice about 'picky eaters' and suggestions for a healthy packed lunch as well as our Packed Lunch Policy.

[Healthy Eating \(acletclose.durham.sch.uk\)](http://www.acletclose.durham.sch.uk)

Breastfeeding Group... Do you know any pregnant ladies/new Mums who would appreciate some support with breastfeeding?

This free breastfeeding support group is led by NHS Trained peer support Volunteer, Angela Wilson. Angela has two children of her own and has successfully provided ongoing support to numerous breastfeeding mums and babies throughout the pandemic and also through her own popular breastfeeding peer support group in Bishop Auckland.

This group is available to help support and provide information to those breastfeeding from Pregnancy all the way through to childhood with no upper age restrictions. They welcome and support mums of all feeding backgrounds to join the friendly group where they can chat about the trials and tribulations of their breastfeeding journeys and also celebrate them in a safe and supportive environment as well as making new friends and socialising babies/children in the baby/toddler area.

The support group is free to attend with a £1 donation for refreshments.

Thursdays 9.30am - 11.30am at the Four Clocks Centre, Newgate Street. NO BOOKING REQUIRED.

Lisa Jenkins Head Teacher

WELCOME...

Over the last few weeks new friends have joined us. A very warm welcome to Rowan, Johnboy, Phoebe, William, Ellis-Matthew and Harmony-Rose - we hope you will be very happy here!



Many happy returns to Imogen, Arthur, Franklin, Ralph, Adelyne, Olivia, Joshua-Jay, Oliver and Ryleigh-Jane who have April birthdays. We hope you have all had a lovely time.

THANK YOU! On behalf of staff and children, I would like to say a very big 'thank you' for your donations to school fund. As well as providing the children's daily healthy snacks, we have also bought various items for the garden including a large standing sand pit for our 2 year olds. Many thanks to those of you that have been using bank transfer to donate your weekly contribution to school fund. After Easter there are 5 weeks in the half-term and you are welcome to pay in as many instalments as you like. As a guide we suggest £1 per week for children attending 15 hours a week and £2 per week for children attending up to 30 hours a week.

Nursery Sort Code: 20-09-44 Account number: 20101478 Reference: use your child's name

Your child's safety is very important to us...

Please avoid driving down the approach to the school as this puts other children and parents at risk. We would also appreciate it if you could use the laybys and be mindful about our neighbours when parking - please avoid their driveways and the grass verges. Please remind all adults that drop off and collect your children. Thank you ☺

Dates for your diary...

APRIL:

- **April:** Parent/carer consultation phone calls for 'spotlight children'
- **Friday 8th:** School breaks up for Easter break
- **Monday 25th:** School reopens after Easter
- **Wednesday 27th:** No swimming lessons
- **Wednesday 27th:** Zoo Lab (creepy crawlies) in school for older children (information attached)

MAY:

- **Monday 2nd:** School closed - Bank Holiday
- **Wednesday 4th:** Swimming lessons restart
- **Thursday 5th:** School closed to children - building used for elections/staff training day (4)
- **Thursday 26th:** Schools breaks up for May half term
- **Thursday 26th:** Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in school - more details to follow
- **Friday 27th:** School closed - additional bank holiday for Queen's Platinum Jubilee

JUNE:

- **Monday 6th:** School closed to children - Staff training day (5)
- **Tuesday 7th:** School reopens

JULY:

- **Wednesday 13th:** Family seaside trip (more details to follow)
- **Wednesday 20th:** Mini Graduation for July 22 leavers
- **Thursday 21st:** School closes for Summer break



Whenever you buy anything online, you could be raising free donations for Aclet Close Nursery School. Since November 2020 our supporters have raised over £320! All you need to do is:

1. Click https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/acletclosenursery/?utm_campaign=raise-more and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to Aclet Close Nursery School at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and the children at Aclet Close Nursery School will be really grateful. Please share our link with your friends and family too!

GOVERNOR NEWS...

Governors' Full Governing Body Meeting has now taken place.

Governors have approved work to start during the Easter holidays to our 2 year olds' playground surface.

We still have 2 parent vacancies; please speak to Mrs Jenkins if you are interested.