



## Bulletin

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Just a few reminders...

### *Photo Day*

Sally, our amazing photographer will be with us on **Friday 3 May** from 9 to 11am. Please let us know if you would like to book a family shoot. If your child does not usually attend nursery on this day, you are welcome to book a slot with Amanda. We escort all the children attending that day. You will then receive the proofs on a 'sale or return' basis.

### *Bags to School*

Please take a bag and fill it with no longer used clothing and bring it to nursery no later than **Friday 10th May**. This helps to raise funds for children's play resources (& comes at the right time for some Spring cleaning & sorting!) Thank you – every little helps!

### *Extending Opening*

We are opening for additional longer days (8.00 to 5.30) in the May half term and throughout the summer holidays. If you wish to maximise your child's free entitlement (funded hours), you **must** advise us no later than **9 May**. After this date, we will be unable to claim funding for additional sessions until September 2019. So, please think ahead NOW!

The specific days when we plan to open are:

- Wed 29th & Thurs 30th May
- Wed 24th & Thurs 25th July
- Wed 31st July & Thurs 1st Aug
- Wed 7th Aug & Thurs 8th Aug
- Wed 14th Aug & Thurs 15th Aug
- Wed 21st Aug & Thurs 22nd Aug
- Wed 28th Aug & Thurs 29th Aug

We would also like to remind you that we are registered for children to 8 years old. In our other settings, some working parents continue to book their children in for Holiday Activity Days in the school holidays. By limiting the numbers of school aged children (and limiting them to Oaklea Leavers), we find that the holidays have a lovely 'family feel'. Please let us know if you think this might be of interest for you!

Thank you to those parents who have expressed an interest in increasing their sessions from September. This is really helpful, as we plan to staff the Autumn term.

### *Other updates...*

We welcome Catherine who is joining the team as Acting Manager for this term. She has been with Oaklea Montessori as a Director and Setting Manager (Lawford) for 10 years. As we say a sad 'good bye' to Annamaria, she can be confident that it is left in safe hands! We will announce other exciting news soon!

### *Other updates...*

We have had an early taste of summer and we therefore remind you to make sure your child arrives wearing clothing (named) that is suitable for the day's weather. We also ask that your child arrives with sun protection **before** arriving for their nursery session. We will re-apply Nivea Factor 50 for all those staying into the afternoon. Please advise us if your child is intolerant to this product.

### *Fees & Funding*

We are delighted that last year we were able to maintain the current fee rates. This is in spite of considerable financial pressures, such as increases to national minimum wages, increases to pensions and rents as well as a general uplift in operating costs.

The CIC directors have closely monitored the impact of all these influences and conclude that we **do** need to increase fees simply to stand still! We are committed to retaining a small child : staff ratio, flexibility in terms of hours of attendance and a commitment to a well-trained staff team.

From September 2019 the new fee rate for hours outside the FEEE sessions is:

Acorns £5.60 / hour

Meals costs:

Breakfast £1.25 (only available at 8 am)

Lunch £3

Tea £1.90 (only available at 4.30)

Holiday Activity Days (only for Oaklea Leavers aged 4 to 8): £6.60 / hour

### *And finally...*

we welcome our new children and look forward to learning about our 'Wonderful Earth'. Please see below the list of topics and suggestions of fun ways you might want to join in with our topics!

## Summer 2019

<b>Weeks beginning</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>A few ideas for home - Enjoy &amp; bring in for your child's journey book!</b>
23rd April to 10th May	<b>Wonderful Earth – let's explore SPACE</b>	Visit the library and choose some non-fiction books on Space! See if you can spot the moon (we might even see it in the daytime?). Share some time cloud watching on a warm day!
13th to 24th May	<b>Wonderful Earth – let's explore AUSTRALASIA</b>	Kangaroo jumping races Learn to waltz (in time for Strictly!) – Waltzing Matilda Internet search for pictures and videos of some fun Australasian animals (kiwis, duck billed platypus, Kangaroos, wallabies, koalas etc.)
27th May to 7th June	<b>Wonderful Earth – let's explore ASIA</b>	Make Chinese food together and try to eat with chopsticks Dress up in a sari, listen to Indian music... Make collage pictures using rice, noodles and other ingredients, listen to oriental music...
10th to 21st June	<b>Wonderful Earth – let's explore AFRICA</b>	Enjoy a trip to the zoo and look for African animals Listen to African drums & make a drum to join in! Make a pyramid Colour pasta and thread colourful beads.
24th June to 5th July	<b>Wonderful Earth – let's explore NORTH AMERICA</b>	Look at surfers and make a surf board Look at the habitats of grizzly bears and polar bears Look at some Mexican art and make your own designs together. Make a pattern with stars and stripes!
8th to 19th July	<b>Wonderful Earth – let's explore EUROPE</b>	Find out with your child how to say 'hello' in different European languages Look at different transport methods to cross the water into mainland Europe Compare a euro coin with a £1 coin
22nd July to 2nd August	<b>Wonderful Earth – let's explore SOUTH AMERICA</b>	Enjoy the monkey house at the zoo Make colourful parrot pictures Listen to the sounds of the rainforest (youtube) Sing '10 little monkeys jumping on the bed'
5th to 23rd August	<b>Wonderful Earth – let's explore ANTARCTICA &amp; OCEANS</b>	Enjoy a trip to a Sea life centre Enjoy penguin race games Watch short clips of sea life Sort your recycling together and talk about plastic in the oceans.

<b>27th August to 8th Sept</b>	<b>Wonderful Earth – let's talk about OUR HOLIDAYS!</b>	Borrow a Travelling Teddy or make a diary to tell us about your holidays... Days out / stay home holidays / what did we do? / where did we go? / who did we meet?
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Yours sincerely,

*Catherine Theodosius*

**Catherine Theodosius**

*Setting Manager  
Montessori CIC*



**Caroline Allen**

*Managing Director (Oaklea)*