

Radnor Park Kindergarten

Termly Newsletter



Welcome!

Welcome to all our new and returning children. We are looking forward to another great year here at Radnor Park and getting to know your little ones as they either join us for the first time or transition to a new section.

This year we will be publishing a Newsletter each term to highlight any important information, upcoming dates, what your child will be focusing on with their teams and showcasing any highlights from the previous term. Please ensure you check out your child's section. We will also include any links and resources which we think may be of interest or use to our parents at the end of each newsletter.

If you have not yet done so, could we kindly ask that you upload a picture of yourselves and any contact that may collect or drop off your child onto the Blossom app. This can be done via the home observation option. Please select journey from the bottom row of the app and select add under home observation. Could you also please ensure you have provided a password for those that may collect your child. If you are unsure what password you have given, please check with member of the team.

As always if you have any questions or concerns about anything please speak to a member of staff or contact us at

parents@radnorparkkindergarten.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUTUMN HALF TERM

Monday October 20th-Friday October 24th. If your child is term time only they will not be scheduled to attend during this time.

BUTTERFLY STAY & PLAY

Wednesday September 17th 4:45pm-5:30pm

CATERPILLAR & DRAGONFLIES STAY & PLAY

Thursday September 18th 4:15pm-5:15pm

BUTTERFLY GRANDPARENT STAY & PLAY

WEDNESDAY 29TH OCTOBER
1:30PM-2:15PM

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

THURS 25TH DEC-FRI 2ND JAN
WE WILL CLOSE 2PM ON 24TH
DEC AND OPEN AGAIN MON 5TH
JAN 8AM

Important things to remember

- **Changes of Clothes-** We love to get messy when it comes to our activities and learning and we want to make sure that the children are always dry and comfortable. Please ensure that your child has a few full changes of clothes (including socks & pants) at nursery each day. These can be left at nursery or brought in each day.
- **Weather appropriate outerwear-** We try and get the children outside to play each day even when the weather isn't great. Please ensure your child has appropriate outdoor attire for the day including wellies, raincoats, all in ones, warm coats, hats and mitts as the weather turns cooler.
- **Packed Lunch Policy-** For those that are sending their children in with packed meals please ensure you have read our packed lunch policy & are aware of food preparation requirements for things like fruits and vegetables. We have included a guide at the end of the newsletter.
- **Drop off & Pick up Times-** Please ensure that you are picking up and dropping off at your booked times. We work to strict staff child ratios and may not be able to accommodate early drop off or late collections. If for any reason you need to drop your child off early or collect late please call the office or email parents@radnorparkkindergarten.com so we can check our numbers. Could we also please kindly ask that parents be mindful of other parents/carers when collecting/dropping off their little ones and give them space to pass on any information they need to their team.
- **Mobile Phone Use-** Due to our safeguarding protocols, Radnor Park does not allow the use of mobile phones on the property. This includes outside the entrances and during stay and plays. Please ensure your mobile phones remain in your pocket or bag at all times when you are visiting the setting.
- **Items from Home-** We would always strongly recommend that children do not bring in any toys from home unless this has been discussed with their team or is for a special event like show and tell. We would also ask that any items brought into nursery such as their clothes, bags, wellies water bottles etc. be labelled so that we can ensure they are returned to the proper child.
- **Term Dates-** Please note that our term dates are slightly different to primary and secondary schools due to the number of weeks we are funded. If your child is term time only or has a different schedule outside of term please ensure you have checked our term dates so you know when these dates are.



PLEASE



**NO PEANUTS
OR
NUT PRODUCTS**

Due to children's allergies, we are strictly a nut free setting. Please could you ensure that your child does not bring in their packed meals any food containing nuts or nut-based products such as peanut butter. If you are unsure if a product is allowed, please speak to a member of the team.

Due to this we would also ask that any cakes or treats to celebrate your child's birthday or other occasions be store bought with the ingredients clearly labelled.

The Ladybirds

Hello and welcome to our new parents. We look forward to getting to know all your little ones as they start their journey with us. If you have any questions regarding your child's settling in please don't hesitate to ask.

Over the next month we will be focusing our learning and activities on the topic of 'All about me' and getting to know all our new children. We will also be introducing the parts that make up our bodies and talking about those around us including our family, friends and pets.

In the second half of the term, we will also be introducing the themes of Autumn and Harvest. We will be incorporating things like pumpkin plan and expanding our role play area.

To go along with our topics, we will also be introducing a book and song every two weeks. These will include "My first words: body", Ten little fingers & ten little toes, Eyes Nose Toes peekaboo, Peekaboo Pumpkin, And the Very hungry caterpillar's creepy crawly Halloween. Songs will include Head, shoulders knees and toes & Dingle Dangle Scarecrow. Keep your eye out for messages from the team about what we are doing each week so you can read and sing along with at home.

Celebrations/Parent Partnership

Sunday 5th October: Harvest Festival- We will be collecting tins and non-perishable items for the local food bank. Please keep an eye out for updates on how you can get involved.

Friday 31st October: Fancy Dress Day- Children can come in dressed up to celebrate the occasion.

Family Tree Photos: Can you please send in photo from home which we can add to our family tree on our wall. These can be emailed to parents@radnorparkkindergarten.com or added on blossom as a home observation.



THE LADYBIRD TEAM

Freya- QTS, Room Leader

Gosia- QTS, Supervisor

Libby- Practitioner

Amber- Apprentice

Sophie- Apprentice

***"The ladybug is a friend
to gardens, a symbol of
good fortune, and a
reminder of the beauty
of small things"***

The Bumblebees

Welcome to the bumblebee section. Over the next month we will be focusing on getting to know all our new children. We will be focusing on finding out what they like and don't like, and what they are interested in. We will also be working with them to help get them use to new routines. As part of this we will be trying to get the bumblebees outside in the garden every morning and some afternoon's.

To help us learn more about your little ones we will be focusing on the theme of "all about me" this term. We will incorporate stories and activities which will help explore their interests. Please let us know there is anything which your child really engages with.

We will also be doing lots of messy play exploring sand & water, colourful paints and textured playdough.

Near the end of the term will we start incorporating Autum & Harvest themes into our learning and activities.

Celebrations/Parent Partnership

Sunday 5th October: Harvest Festival- We will be collecting tins and non perishable items for the local food bank. Please keep an eye out for updates on how you can get involved.

Friday 31st October: Fancy Dress Day- Children can come in dressed up to celebrate the occasion.

Family Photo's: If possible could parents please bring in or upload onto blossom (home observations) some family photos for your child to enjoy while they are at nursery.

"When you take into account the size of the body compared to size of the wingspan, the Bumblebee on all accounts should NOT be able to fly, it is a scientific impossibility. So remember the tiny Bumblebee does something impossible everyday!" -Richard Branson



THE BUMBLEBEE TEAM

Casey- Room Leader

Demelza- Supervisor

Stephanie- Practitioner

Tanisha- Practitioner

Hannah- Apprentice

Bradley- Apprentice

The Dragonflies

Greetings and welcome to the Dragonflies section. If we have not yet had the chance to introduce ourselves then we hope to see you at our upcoming stay and play.

Over the next month we will be focusing our learning and activities on our theme of 'all about me'. We will be getting to know our new children, what they like and don't like and what they are interested in and discussing topic of friendship and family. We will also be introducing our golden rules as we help our dragonflies get use to their new environment and routines.

During the second half of the term we will start to incorporate additional themes of feelings and emotions. We will start to incorporate books and discussions about how to identify our emotions and how express them. Some of these books include, the colour monster, kindness and love makes a happy family.

Celebrations/Parent Partnership

Thursday 18th September- Caterpillar & Dragonflies Stay & Play 4:30pm-5:15pm. Due to the space and number of children please can only one parent per child attend. We are also unable to accommodate any siblings

Friday 31st October- Fancy Dress Day- Children can come in dressed up to celebrate the occasion.

"Having flown the earth for millions of years the dragonfly is a symbol of change, transformation, adaptability...we as human beings learn, grown and change course"



THE DRAGONFLIES TEAM

Leyla- Room Leader

Shay- Supervisor

Courtney- Practitioner

Alyssa- Apprentice

Renee- Apprentice

The Caterpillars

Hello from the Caterpillar team. Whether your child joins us from Bumblebees, dragonflies or is new to Radnor Park we look forward to getting to know them all.

Over the next couple of months we will be focusing on the children's interests and incorporating them into our learning and activities. We will also be looking at the themes of family, friendship, and emotions. To help with our discussion around these topics we will also be reading books including the colour monster, will you be my friend the worry monster and who are you? We will also be working with the children to help get them get use to their new routine.

Celebrations/Parent Partnership

Books/Song of the week: Each week we will be focusing on a book and song of the week. We will send a message out on blossom to let you know what book or song we will be focusing on so that you can read and sing along with your little one at home.

Home Activities: Once a month we will be sending home a activity you can do with you little one. Keep your eye out for these as they are a great way to extend your child's learning outside of nursery.

Likes & Dislikes: We always want to incorporate the children's interest into our activities and learning. To help with this, please let us know if your child has any new interests or focuses. Also, if there is anything which you are working towards at home with your child either in their habits or routine could you also, please let us know.

Thursday 18th September- Caterpillar & Dragonflies Stay & Play 4:30pm-5:15pm. Due to the space and number of children please can only one parent per child attend. We are also unable to accommodate any siblings. Sign-up sheet will be available closer to the event.

Friday 31st October- Fancy Dress Day- Children can come in dressed up to celebrate the occasion.



THE CATERPILLARS TEAM

Lucie- Room Leader

Keira- Supervisor

Summer- QTS, Practitioner

Emily- Practitioner

Molly- Apprentice

“You, like the little caterpillar, will grow up, unfold your wings and fly off into the future. It is being the Caterpillar that you become the butterfly”

The Butterflies

Hello and welcome to the Butterfly section. Over the next year we look forward to helping your child get ready to start their next adventure at primary school.

Throughout this term we will be focusing our learning and activities on getting to know our new children, what they like and don't like and what they are interested in. We will be learning and discussing topic of friendship and family. We will also be introducing our golden rules as we help our butterflies get use to their new environment and routines.

During the second half of the term, we will expand our themes and incorporate additional topics of where we live, our town, houses and places nearby.

To go along with our topics this term we will also be reading books like the everywhere bear, the colour monster and pumpkin soup & a squash and a squeeze during our story times.

Celebrations/Parent Partnership

Wednesday 17th September: Stay & Play 4:45pm-5:30pm Due to space and number of children please only one parent per child to attend. We are also unable to accommodate any siblings. Sign up sheet will be available closer to the event.

Wednesday 29th October: Grandparent Stay & Play 1:30pm-2:15pm Due to space and number of children please only one grandparent per child to attend. We are also unable to accommodate any siblings. Sign-up sheet will be available closer to the event.

Friday 31st October- Fancy Dress Day- Children can come in dressed up to celebrate the occasion.

THE BUTTERFLIES TEAM

Stevie- Room Leader

Christina- QTS, Practitioner

Tierney- Practitioner

Stephen- Practitioner

Macie- Apprentice

Charlie- Apprentice

***“When a caterpillar
bursts from its cocoon
and discovers it has
wings, it does not sit
idly, hoping to one day
turn back. It flies.**”*

Useful Links & Resources



CBeebies Parenting is an online community empowering parents and carers to help their children learn through play. For the first time, CBeebies is bringing together all its parenting resources in one place to support parents with some of the biggest challenges they face from developing speech and language skills to potty training and school readiness. CBeebies Parenting provides top tips, activity ideas, games, advice and content backed by trusted experts.

Do you have questions about your child but aren't sure where to go or who to ask?

There is a new NHS text line that is here to help!

Simply send a text message to 07312263368 and a member of the NHS health visitors team will be able to help 24-7.

The team is available to help with **ANY** advice, support or concerns you may have about your child no matter how big or small.



Kent Community Health
NHS Foundation Trust

Do you know who you can talk to?

If you have any queries or concerns, big or small, or you would like to talk to someone about your child. We are here to help!



Ting Healey Owner-
Invoices, Funding,
Sessions and FEES



Emily Sargeant
Setting Manager-
Designated Child
Protection Officer,



Emma Willson Deputy
Manager- Special
Educational Needs and
Disability Officer, Deputy
Designated Safeguarding



Tracey Leighton Duty
Manager- Health and
Safety Officer, Deputy
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Chloe Tidy Duty
Manager- Online
Safety Co-Ordinator,
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Brenley Martin
Administrator- New
Applications,
Funding Support,
Sessions and FEES

Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council



Folkestone & Hythe Family Hubs

Venue	Course Title	Start	End	Day	Start Time	End Time
Folkestone Family Hub	Family First Aid	17th September 2025	17th September 2025	Wed	10am	12pm
New Romney Family Hub	Family Maths	4th November 2025	30th June 2026	Tues	9:30 am	11:30 am
New Romney Family Hub	Family First Aid	20th January 2026	20th January 2026	Tues	1pm	3pm
New Romney Family Hub	Supporting ADHD in the Home	25th February 2026	18th March 2026	Wed	9:30 am	11:30 am
New Romney Family Hub	Cooking On a Budget	30th June 2026	21st June 2026	Tues	11:30 am	1:30 pm

To help us provide the best possible experience for you, please let us know if you or your child have any disabilities or particular support needs.

To book your place on one of these FREE courses, please contact:

Email: folkestoneandhythefh@kent.gov.uk

Call: 03000 421 167



Go online: [KAE Family Learning](https://www.kentadulteducation.co.uk)

[kentadulteducation.co.uk](https://www.kentadulteducation.co.uk)

Bringing learning to

Would you like to learn how to better help your child in case of accident and or emergency?

We are currently offering interested parents the chance to take part in a free online training course in Paediatric first aid. The course is CPD certified and can be accessed in your own time. If you would like to sign up for the course please let us know via parents@radnorparkkindergarten.com and we will get you registered.



Born to move

To learn babies need to...

see it



Eyes need to move

This develops their eye muscles for reading later on.

Hear it



Chatter matters

Speak to your baby each day. It will help your child learn to talk.

Do it



Playtime

Being active with lots of awake tummy time will support your baby's physical and brain development.



Free NHS app

For more help and advice you can download our Born to Move app, which is free from the App Store or Google Play.

Find out more at family.kent.nhs.uk/bornmove



App Store



Google Play

Talking Walk ins

Folkestone & Hythe

Concerned about your pre-school child's speech, language or communication skills?

Talking Walk-ins are play-based drop-in sessions where you can speak to a speech and language therapist

Just turn up – no need to book!

For residents living in Folkestone & Hythe with pre-school-aged children

Family Hub

Cheriton Family Hub
(Chart Road, CT19 4PN)
Folkestone Family Hub
(Dover Road, CT20 1QF)
Castle Hill Family Hub
(Denmark Street, CT19 6EQ)
New Romney Family Hub
(Craythorne Lane, TN28 8BL)

Day/Session

1st Tuesday of Month
9:30am - 11:45am
2nd Wednesday of Month
9:30am - 11:45am
3rd Monday of Month
9:30am - 11:45am
4th Wednesday of Month
9:30am - 11:45am

Talking Walk-ins provide you with advice or ideas to try at home. We may signpost you to other support or invite you to a follow-up with the speech and language therapy service.

Talking Walk-ins do not run on Bank Holidays or between Christmas and New Year. Check the Folkestone & Hythe Children's Centres Facebook page for updates.



Packed Meals & Choking

Please can all parents be mindful of our packed meals policy and ensure...

Lunches/teas should **DO NOT** include-

Chocolate bars- Twix/Mars etc.

Sweets

Juice/Fizzy Drinks

No Nuts, Nut Products or any items that may contain nuts

Sandwiches should not include

Sweet spread fillings- Jam/Honey/Nutella

Nut Spreads- Peanut butter, almond butter etc.

Salty Fillings such as Marmite

Could we also please ask parents to look at our safer eating information below and ensure that all packed meals abide by the government guidelines especially in relation to how food should be prepared and cut up to keep you little ones safe.

Early years food choking hazards

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Below is a table of advice on key foods for care givers who are involved with preparing and serving food for babies and young children (under 5 years old)

Vegetable and fruits	Advice
Pips or stones in fruit	Always check beforehand and remove hard pips or stones from fruit.
Small fruits	Cut small round fruits like grapes, cherries, berries, strawberries and cherry tomatoes, into small pieces: cut lengthways and then again cut them in halves (quarters).
Large fruits and firm fruits	Cut large fruits like melon and firm fruits like apple into slices instead of small chunks. For very young children, consider grating or mashing firm fruits, or softening them up by steaming or simmering.
Vegetables	Cut vegetables like carrots, cucumber and celery into narrow batons. For very young children consider grating or mashing firm vegetables and legumes like butter beans, chickpeas and tofu, or softening them up by steaming or simmering.
Skin on fruit and vegetables	Consider removing the skin from fruit and vegetables, especially for very young children. Peeled fruit and vegetables can be swallowed more easily.
Cooking fruit and vegetables	Consider softening firm fruit and vegetables (such as carrots, broccoli, yam and apples) by steaming or simmering until soft. Serve cut into slices or narrow batons.
Meat and fish	Advice
Sausages and hot dogs	Cut sausages and hot dogs into short strips. Cut them in half and then lengthways or as thinly as possible. Peeling the skin off the sausages helps them to be swallowed more easily.
Meat or fish	Remove bones from meat or fish. Cut meat into strips as thinly as possible. Remove skin and fat from meat and fish, it will help the food pass smoothly down the throat.

Cheese	Advice
Grate or cut cheese	Grate or cut cheese into short strips. Cut lumps of cheese as narrow as possible.
Nuts and seeds	Advice
Chop or flake whole nuts	Chop or flake whole nuts, peanuts and seeds. Whole nuts should not be given to children under five years old.
Bread	Advice
White bread and other breads	White bread can form a ball shape with a dough-like texture at the back of a child's throat, if not chewed properly. Brown bread or toasted white bread are good alternatives. Cut bread, chapatis, naan bread and other breads into narrow strips.
Snacks and other foods	Advice
Popcorn	Do not give babies and young children popcorn.
Chewing gum and marshmallows	Do not give babies and young children chewing gum or marshmallows.
Peanut butter	Do not give babies and young children peanut butter on its own, only use as a spread.
Jelly cubes	Do not give babies and young children raw jelly cubes.
Boiled sweets and ice cubes	Do not give babies and young children boiled, hard, gooey, sticky or cough sweets, or ice cubes.
Raisins and other dried fruits	Do not give babies under the age of 1 whole raisins or dried fruits. Cut them into small pieces.

Make sure food is prepared appropriately for children under 5 years old, see: <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/>

It is also advisable that care givers are familiar with how to respond to a choking incident, see: How to stop a child from choking: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-stop-a-child-from-choking/>

and How to resuscitate a child: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-resuscitate-a-child/>

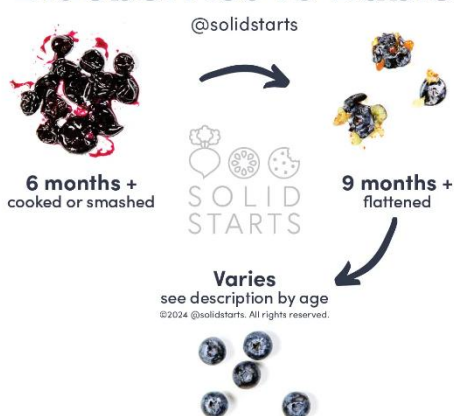
6 months old +:

Cook ripe, fresh or frozen blueberries into warm cereals until the berries burst. Alternatively, smash whole berries that have been cooked until soft, then fold the smashed berries into soft, scoopable foods like grain porridge, ricotta cheese, or yogurt. You can also flatten uncooked blueberries into a disc to reduce the choking hazard, but know that babies at this age may struggle to pick up the small pieces of food, and putting food in a baby's mouth significantly increases choking risk. Cooked blueberries (in muffins, pancakes, and other baked goods) can be left whole because they soften and burst with heat.

9 months old +:

Flatten large ripe blueberries to make little discs and serve directly on the tray or table, letting baby try to pick them up independently with their developing pincer grasp (where the thumb and forefinger meet). You can also continue serving blueberries in foods like yogurt, or bite-sized pieces of baked goods with blueberries in them.

How to Serve Blueberries to Babies





Early years choking hazards food safety advice

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For babies and young children, food can be a choking hazard, especially when they do not chew their food well or they try to swallow it whole.

Choking can happen with any foods, but 'firm foods', bones and small round foods that can easily get stuck in the throat present a higher risk. Therefore, care givers should follow these five essential steps:

- 1** Make sure food is **suitably prepared and served** for babies and children under 5 years old. For suitable foods, see <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/>. Introduce babies to solid foods from around 6 months of age.
- 2** **Think about size, shape and texture of food.** Cut food into narrow batons, avoid round shapes and firm foods. Firm fruit & vegetables can be softened by cooking.
- 3** Ensure that babies and young children are **alert and seated safely upright** in a highchair or appropriately sized low chair whilst eating.
- 4** **Babies and young children should be supervised at all times** while eating. You will be able to identify the early signs of choking and prevent harm.
- 5** **Encourage babies and young children to chew food well.** Teach children how to chew and swallow food properly, and ensure they take their time during meals. This will reduce their risk of choking.

Care givers and parents should be familiar with how to respond to a choking incident in line with guidance on first aid for children:

How to stop a child from choking: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-stop-a-child-from-choking/>

How to resuscitate a child: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-resuscitate-a-child/>