

# October Newsletter

Term Dates and Upcoming Events	
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Last Day of Funding for Term 1
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Caterpillar Harvest Stay & Play
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> -Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Half Term
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Term 2 Funding Begins
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Last Day to sign funding forms for terms 3/4
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Last Day of Funding for Term 2
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December -Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024	Christmas Holidays <b>Nursery Closed</b>
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2024	Nursery Re-Opens from 8am
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Term 3 Funding Begins
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Last Day of Funding for Term 3
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February- Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Half Term
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Term 4 Funding Begins
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Last Day to sign funding forms for terms 5/6
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Last Day of Funding for Term 4
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Good Friday <b>Nursery Closed</b>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2024	Easter Monday <b>Nursery Closed</b>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Term 5 Funding Begins
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Early May Bank Holiday <b>Nursery Closed</b>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Last Day of Funding for Term 5
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Late May Bank Holiday <b>Nursery Closed</b>
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2024-Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024	Half Term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	Term 6 Funding Begins
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Last Day to sign Funding Forms for Term 1/2
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024	Last Day of Funding for Term 6
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> August 2024	August Bank Holiday <b>Nursery Closed</b>

**PLEASE**



**Could we please remind all parents that due to allergies we are a nut free setting. Please do not send any nuts, nut products or items that contain nuts in with your child.**

**NO PEANUTS  
OR  
NUT PRODUCTS**



### Collection Password

Could we please ask that all parents register a general password for people other than themselves picking up their children which we can keep on file. If all password submission could please be sent to [parents@radnorparkkindergarten.com](mailto:parents@radnorparkkindergarten.com) we would greatly appreciate it. If you recently registered with the setting and provided a password on your application form you do not need to send it through again.

### Mobile Phone Use

Just a reminder to parents and careers that mobile phones are not permitted to be used in or around the nursery setting due to our safeguarding policy. This includes collections and drop offs. Please ensure that when you are visiting that you keep your phones in your pockets or bags for the safety and security of our little one. Many Thanks.



### Packed Lunches

Please can we remind all parents to follow our packed lunch policy.

- Lunches should **NOT** include-
- Chocolate bars- Twix/Mars etc.
- Sweets
- Juice/Fizzy Drinks

**Nuts, Nut Products or any items that may contain nuts**



#### Sandwiches should not include

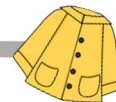
- Sweet spread fillings- Jam/Honey/Nutella
- Nut Spreads- Peanut butter, almond butter etc.
- Salty Fillings such as Marmite



For further information relating to your child's packed lunch please see our packed lunch policy which can be found on our website or from our administrator.



### Outside Wear & Spare Clothes



As we finally begin to see the lovely autumn weather, could you please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing for the garden and outdoor play including coats, boots, hats and spare clothes.

We like to get the children out even in inclement weather and don't want anyone to miss out.

Could you also please ensure that you send in at least two changes of clothing for your little one including socks and underwear. We love to get the children involved in messy play and want to ensure they always have something warm and comfortable to change into afterwards if needed.

Lastly could any borrowed clothing please be returned to the nursery so that we have extras on hand should another child need them.



## Ladybirds (Babies)



Room Leader: Ellie  
Supervisor: Vicky

Apprentice: Emily  
Apprentice: Tierney

### Story of the week

- That's not my hedgehog
- Making Faces
- The very hungry caterpillar
- Peekaboo Pumpkin

### Themes of the Month

- Autumn, leaves and the cold
- Night time
- Owls and other woodland animals
- Our golden rules

We now have a sock basket in our front porch. Please have a look if you are missing any of your little ones socks.

### *Golden Rules*

We are introducing our golden rules throughout each section. Within babies we are encouraging kind hands and manners such as thank you and please.



## Bumblebees (Toddlers)



Room Leader: Leyla  
Supervisor: Katie

Practitioner: Demelza  
Practitioner: Hayley

### Books of the week

- The Colour Monster
- Baby Goes to Market
- See, Touch, Feel

### Themes & Activities

- Feeling- through the colour monster we will be learning about feelings and exploring these in colourful messy play and sensory bottles.
- Autumn
- Families
- Vehicles

Could we also please remind parents of our packed lunch policy. Peanut butter and other nut products are not allowed within the setting due to allergies. Unfortunately if nut products are sent in with lunches we will not be able to provide them to your child.

Please ensure that your child has a coat and appropriate shoes for outdoor play now that the cold and wet weather is upon us. Could you also please ensure if your child come in with their wellies on that they have a comfortable pair of indoor shoes to change into.





## Dragonflies



Room Leader: Stevie  
Supervisor: Katy

Practitioner: Stephanie  
Apprentice: Sophie

Apprentice: Keira

Colour of the Month: **Orange**

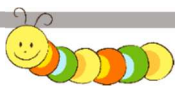
### Book of the Week

- Zoom Rocket Zoom
- The Colour Monster
- We're going on a pumpkin hunt
- Room on the broom

Please can you ensure your child has a weather appropriate coat when they come in so that we can still continue to play outside.

### Activities

- Continue to investigate new objects in our 'what's in the box activity'
- Space week- Exploring different textures, building a space rockets and space sensory trays
- World Food Day- Exploring different fruits and vegetables and doing food tastings.
- Autumn: Exploring leaves, sticks, pinecones etc.



## World Mental Health Day-Caterpillars



Room Leader: Sarah  
Supervisor: Arpana

Practitioner: Stephen  
Practitioner: Lucie

Apprentice: Amber

### Book of The Week

- Meet the planets
- The colour monster
- Mr. Magnolia
- Leaf man
- Room on the broom

**We will be having a harvest festival stay & play on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 4:30pm-5:15pm. We have lots of fun activities for everyone to get involved with to celebrate autumn. A signup sheet is available on our door so please add your name if you are interested**

### Activities

- We will be exploring autumn and what happens to the leaves. We will also be sending home a bag for you and your child to collect autumn things you may find on walks or days out which can be brought in to share with the other children.
- Canadian Thanksgiving- We will be talking about what we are thankful for and exploring Canadian books, flags and traditions
- World Mental Health Day- We will be talking and learning about our feelings and what makes us feel these different emotions.





## Butterflies



Room Leader: Ciara  
Supervisor: Shannon

Practitioner: Shay  
Practitioner: Lainey

### Books of the week:

- Owl Babies
- Ugly Five
- The Tiger who came to Tea
- The Leaf Thief

### Themes of the Month:

- Autumn, Woodlands and woodland creatures
- Healthy Eating
- Harvest Festival: 1<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October, We will be celebrating this by planting our own fruits and vegetables
- Grandparents Day: 1<sup>st</sup> October
- World Habitat Day: 2<sup>nd</sup> October- Exploring the different homes where animals live and how we should care for all living creatures.
- World Space Week: 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October
- World Mental Health Day: 10<sup>th</sup> October- Talking and learning about our feelings, what makes us feel happy, sad, and angry and how we can make others feel. We will also be making stress balls, taking part in mindfulness yoga and doing breathing exercises.

Autumn is now upon us, which brings with it a change of weather. Please can we ask that children bring a named coat to nursery and names wellies for those who currently don't have them at nursery.

### *Show & Tell*

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October, Children are invited to bring in a toy from home for our first 'Show & Tell'!

"See it, smell it, taste it, and forget the time of day or year. Autumn needs no clock or calendar."

- Hal Borland



## **Funding & Tax Free Child Care Guide**

### Tax Free Childcare

You can get up to £500 every 3 months (£2,000 a year) for each of your children to help with the costs of childcare.

If you get Tax-Free Childcare, the government will pay £2 for every £8 you pay your childcare provider. This is paid via an online childcare account that you set up for your child. You can get Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as 30 hours free childcare if you're eligible for both.

Tax free Childcare can be used for approved childcare cost including:

- Deposits
- Fees
- Additional Meal cost

Your eligibility depends on:

- if you are working
- your income (and your partner's income, if you have one)
- your child's age and circumstances
- your immigration status

If you are working you can usually get Tax-Free Childcare if you (and your partner if you have one) are:

- in work
- on sick leave or annual leave
- on shared parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave
- If you're on adoption leave, you cannot apply for the child you're on leave for unless you're going back to work within 31 days of the date you first applied.

If you're not currently working you may still be eligible if your partner is working, and you get Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, Carer's Allowance or contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance.

You can apply if you're starting or re-starting work within the next 31 days.

For additional information or to register for a tax free childcare account please visit

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

### 3 & 4 Year old Government Funding

All children in England are entitled to 15 hours per week government funding for 38 weeks of the year. This will come into effect the term following your child's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday and

Child Turns 3 Between	Term child first becomes eligible for	Funding start date
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023-31 <sup>st</sup> August 2023	Autumn Term 23	4 <sup>th</sup> September, 2023
1 <sup>st</sup> September 2023-31 <sup>st</sup> December	Spring Term 23	8 <sup>th</sup> January, 2023
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024-31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	Summer Term 24	15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2024
1 <sup>st</sup> April-31 <sup>st</sup> August 2024	Autumn Term 24	2 <sup>nd</sup> September, 2024

The 15 hour entitlement is automatic and there is no need to apply for it. However you will need to sign off funding form which is provided and held by the nursery.

Some 3 to 4 year olds are also eligible for the extended 30 hours funding. To check your eligibility or to apply for the funding please visit [www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare](http://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare)

You can apply for your funding code once your child is 2 years and 36 weeks old.

Once you have received your funding code please send this to parents @radnorparkkindergarten.com along with the name, date of birth and national insurance number of the parent who applied for it.

### Using your Funding at Radnor Park Kindergarten

At Radnor Park we have some specific policies relating to the use of government funding. The policies can be found in our FEE structure. If you have not received this or need a new copy please contact [parents@radnorparkkindergarten.com](mailto:parents@radnorparkkindergarten.com) for your copy. Please see below however for a guide to using you funding.

- Once child turns 3 their funding will take effect the following term.
- Parents must sign off a funding form provided by nursery or we will not be able to apply for your funding.
- If your child will be using **15 hours** government funding they must either:
  - Attend afternoon sessions M-F 1pm-6pm which will incur no additional weekly fee's or:
  - If you would like them to attend morning/all-day session than your child will need to be registered for a minimum of 16 hours a week. The charge for the 16<sup>th</sup> hour is £24.80. Any additional hours on top of the 16 hours will be charged at £6.80/hr.
- Please ensure you provide this information to us to prevent your child incorrectly being registered for the funded afternoon sessions.
- If your child will be using **30 hours** government funding you will need to first provide your funding code and parent information to us so that it can be verified.

- Then if you require any additional session you must let us know what they are so that we can check for availability and reserve their space please do this as soon as possible to ensure you don't miss out on your desired spaces. Please be aware when deciding on sessions that they must either:
  - Attend afternoon sessions M-F 12pm-6pm which will incur no additional weekly fee's or:
  - If you would like them to attend morning/all-day session than your child will need to be registered for a minimum of 31 hours a week. The charge for the 31<sup>st</sup> hour is £31.65. Any additional hours on top of the 16 hours will be charged at £6.80/hr.
- Please ensure you provide this information to us to prevent your child incorrectly being registered for the funded afternoon sessions.

### 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 FEE'S



**Emily Sargeant Setting  
Manager-** Designated Child  
Protection Officer, SENCO



**Emma Reene Deputy Manager-**  
Special Educational Needs and  
Disability Officer, Deputy  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



**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





## What is a Talking Walk-in?

- Play based session at a Children's Centre
- Parents attend with their pre-school child if concerned about their speech, language or communication
- Opportunity to access advice from SLT and further support if required
- For most referrals, a Talking Walk-in will be the first contact with the SLT service
- Invited sessions: families known to the service (i.e. accepted referrals) invited to attend
- Drop in sessions: start September Ashford & Folkestone, November – Dover/Deal– anyone can walk-in

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## Launch of Talking Walk-ins



- Open access to drop ins for pre-school children from September
  - Dover will initially be offering invite-only sessions to clear backlog, with drop in sessions to be offered from November 2023
- Information on Children's Centres' Facebook pages and our website [EKHUFT Talking Walk-ins](#).

## Folkestone /Shepway Area Talking Walk ins

Encourage families to access their local Children Centre but can attend others – all in morning 10.30 - 11.45 (likely change to 9.30 - 11.45 term 2)

Need parent to accompany or clear parental/carer consent.

Children must live within Shepway /Ashford /Dover- Deal area

1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of month	Caterpillars CC
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	Folkestone Early Years CC
3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	Village CC
4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	New Romney (not December)



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Staffed by 2 SLTs, SLTA and Children Centre Staff Member

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# Community Support & Wellbeing Resources

## Food & Essentials

The Salvation Army: [salvationarmy.org.uk/Folkestone](https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/Folkestone)

Hythe Pantry: [www.facebook.com/RainbowCentre01](https://www.facebook.com/RainbowCentre01)

Dover Pantry: [www.facebook.com/doverpantry](https://www.facebook.com/doverpantry)      [twitter.com/Doverpantry](https://twitter.com/Doverpantry)

Bechange Community Fridge: [www.bechange.org.uk/support-services/community-fridge](https://www.bechange.org.uk/support-services/community-fridge)

Folkestone Community Fridge: [www.facebook.com/Folkestonecommunityfridge](https://www.facebook.com/Folkestonecommunityfridge)

The Bread & Butter Thing (weekly food bags): [www.breadandbutterthing.org/members](https://www.breadandbutterthing.org/members)

Food Sharing Apps: OLIO (Connects neighbours with each other and local businesses)

Too Good to Go (Anti food waste app linked to local café's & restaurants)

## Financial Support

Help for Households: [www.helpforhouseholdscampaign.gov.uk](https://www.helpforhouseholdscampaign.gov.uk)

Cost of living Support: [www.gov.uk/cost-of-living](https://www.gov.uk/cost-of-living)

Citizens Advice: [citizensadvice.org.uk/dept-and-money/get-help-with-the-cost-of-living](https://citizensadvice.org.uk/dept-and-money/get-help-with-the-cost-of-living)

Home Essentials in a Crisis: [kent.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/care-and-support/benefits/home-essentials-in-a-crisis](https://kent.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/care-and-support/benefits/home-essentials-in-a-crisis)

## Mental Health

NHS Psychological Therapies Service- [www.nhs.uk/services/mental-health/find-a-psychological-therapies-service](https://www.nhs.uk/services/mental-health/find-a-psychological-therapies-service) (Common mental health issues including anxiety, depression and the need for counselling)

Folkestone Safe Haven: [www.hestia.org/folkestone-and-hythe-district](https://www.hestia.org/folkestone-and-hythe-district)

South Kent Mind: [www.southkentmind.org.uk](https://www.southkentmind.org.uk)

Lighthouse43: [www.lighthouse43.co.uk](https://www.lighthouse43.co.uk)

Samaritans: Call 116 123

Mind Information Line: 0300 123 3393

Rethink Mental Illness Helpline: 0808 801 0525