

Stoneygate Nursery School



April 2026



Welcome back to the Summer term! We hope all of our families had a lovely Easter break and managed to spend some time together having fun. As always, the Summer term is already looking busy as we try and fit in all the lovely things we want to do with the children before the end of the school year. Please check out the calendar below for some 'save the dates' and keep an eye on your child's ClassDoJo to keep up to date with news and events.

Diary Dates

Thursday 16 th April	Primary School placement offers to parents	All day
Wednesday 29 th April	Graduation Photographs for school Leavers	All day
Monday 4 th May	School closed for May Day Bank Holiday	All day
Friday 22 nd May	School closes for half term	3.30pm
Monday 8 th June	School reopens after half term	8.30am
w/c 15 th June	Father's Day Stay and Play – more details to follow	

Primary School places

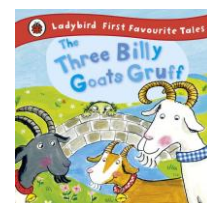
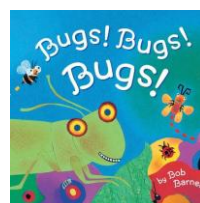
If your child is an Oak in our pre-school class, then you should have received your primary school placement offer yesterday, from Lancashire County Council. If you did not receive your email notification, then please contact school admissions on 0300 123 6707.

If you are not happy with your initial offer, you do have the right to appeal. The appeals period starts from your receipt of the offer.

Story Time and Phonics

This week in nursery, our Seedlings have been exploring the book *Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!* which is all about different insects and how they move.

In Oaks classroom, the Acorns and Oaks have been learning the story of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and have loved guessing the names of the animals by listening to their sounds on the Phonics Play game 'Welcome to the Zoo'. Use the link below to play this at home with your child!



<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/1/welcome-to-the-zoo>

Screen Time Advice

You may have heard about the new UK government guidance (March 2026) for children under five around the use of, and exposure to, screens. The new advice recommends avoiding screen time for under-twos (except for interactive bonding) and limiting children aged two to five to a maximum of one hour daily.

The guidance, aimed at fostering healthy habits, encourages co-viewing, screen-free meals, and avoiding screens one hour before bed.

Whilst we recognise that not all screen time is equal, we do know that lots of our children do have regular access to phones/tablets/TV screens. Government advice suggests:

- Under 2s: Avoid screen time, excluding video calls or interactive, shared activities that encourage bonding.
- Ages 2 to 5: Limit to a maximum of one hour per day.
- Screen-Free Zones/Times: Avoid screens during mealtimes and at least one hour before bedtime to protect sleep.
- Content Type: Choose slow-paced, age-appropriate content over fast-paced, social-media style videos, which can hinder attention span.
- Co-Viewing: Parents should watch with children and engage with them (talking, asking questions) rather than letting children watch alone.

Exceptions: These limits do not apply to screen-based assistive technologies used by children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND).

Some tips to help with the transition for limiting screen time could be:

Safe Screen Swaps: Replace screen time with activities like reading, conversation, table games, or coloring.

Manage Background Activity: Avoid having TVs or devices on in the background during family time or play.

- If you need any further advice/support with this, then please pop in or ask a member of staff for some help!

Polite Reminder – Head Lice

Parents, we politely ask that if you notice your child has nits or head lice, that you do not send them into nursery unless they have been treated. Both lice and nits are highly contagious, spreading primarily through head-to-head contact.

How to spot...

Head lice are small, wingless, grey-brown insects about the size of a sesame seed that live on the scalp and feed on blood. Eggs (nits) are tiny, oval-shaped, yellowish-white, or tan dots glued to the hair shaft near the scalp.

We thank you for your cooperation.