



Date: 23/04/2024

Dear Parents,

New Phone numbers:

With the recent takeover of Oaklea Ramsey (now called The Windmill nursery), both Colchester settings now have new phone numbers. Please make sure these are the numbers to call:

Oaklea New Town: 01206 587448

Oaklea St John's: 01206 589995

Parentzone:

Since the transfer of Oaklea Ramsey to 'The Windmill nursery' at the end of March, there have been a few transitional issues that we have hopefully sorted out. If you are still experiencing any technical difficulties with your child's Parentzone please get in contact with dawn@oakleamontessori.co.uk

Funding

Please make sure, if eligible, you apply for or renew your 30 hour funding code for the Autumn term by 31st August. You can find out more information regarding funding available and tax-free childcare at: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

As Oaklea Ramsey was the head office for Oaklea Montessori nursery, we have had to update the *Tax-Free childcare information* for the Colchester settings. The postcodes have therefore been updated on the system, which you may need to re-register to make payments, if you have problems then please let us know.

New Town postcode to enter is CO1 2DE

Time to Celebrate!

This Summer Term the staff have prepared for the children to have so many wonderful learning opportunities. A huge thank you to our amazing staff team who go above and beyond for the children.

School Applications

School leavers will hear back about what school your child has got into (16th April 2024) – please inform us of what school your child will be moving to in September 2024. Your child's key person will catch up with you shortly about this and discuss with you, regarding their transition to school.

Leaver's Celebration

Our leaver's celebration for our school leaver's will take place on **Monday 15th July 2.15 -3pm** at the local nature garden at the back of the recreation ground, New Town. Please see attached poster. ***This event is just for children who are leaving to start***

Primary School. We will also bring the children's bags as many of you like to collect your children and their belongings so that you can leave directly after the celebration. If your child is booked in that afternoon, we will escort them to the nature garden and we will hand them into your care at the end of the celebration. If your child does not attend on Tuesday afternoons, please bring them to the event and encourage them to sit with their friends for the duration of the event. Please do NOT take photographs, there are some very good reasons why some parents and carers do not wish their child's photograph to be taken! You may want to take photos after the Celebration with your child's friends (if parents agree) and staff members. Please advise us of your child's last day with us. Thank you.

Term Dates

And here is a reminder of the term dates:

Summer Term 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 19th July

Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May Closed for ALL Children

Bank Holiday – Monday 27th May Closed for ALL Children

Half term week commencing Tuesday 28th May.

Leaver's celebration – Monday 15th July 2.15-3pm (for Primary school leaver's)

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 9th September – Friday 20th December

Half term: 28th October – Friday 1st November

Holiday sessions

Please can you email Amanda by the dates below, if you would like any holiday sessions:

May Half term by Friday 3rd May 2024

Summer Holidays by Friday 28th June 2024

Booking Sessions

We are open throughout the holidays. If you would like your child to attend, you **must** advise us no later than Friday 28th June 2024 for the Summer holiday, including the hours you require. **So, please think ahead NOW**, as we need to have the correct staff / child ratios! If your child is FEEE funded and would usually have claimed all their hours during term time, these sessions will be chargeable. We will be doing lots of activities to support children who will be starting school in September. As usual we continue to offer Holiday Club and Activity Days for older siblings/after school children. We are hoping to explore our local community more this Summer.

September sessions

For those of you who will be staying with us, now is the time to request to increase your child's sessions. You may be added to our waiting list if there are others wanting the same sessions in front of you. Please send any session amendments to: stjohns@oakleamontessori.co.uk

Polite Reminder

Please continue to dress your children ready for the weather and activities that children engage in. Please make sure your child has sun protection applied *before* they arrive at nursery and a named sunhat. Even in the summer, children need to arrive wearing wellies/crocs with easy-to-put-on indoor shoes or slippers in their bags. They also need a change of clothing in their bags and please make sure that all clothing is clearly NAMED.

Illness

Please can we remind all parents to adhere to the following guidelines if your child is poorly (please see notice board for the up-to-date public health guidance). For sickness/diarrhoea children cannot attend until 48 hours after the last bout of illness. Please note, **we cannot issue unprescribed medication**. Additionally, we continue our policy of No Calpol, to reduce the risk of spreading illness – if your child is unwell, please keep them at home where they can rest and recuperate so they can return quickly to explore with their friends and teachers.

And finally...

Wishing you all a lovely last term!

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Lewis
Oaklea Director

Marie Zoulova
Setting Manager