



Newsletter



JULY HIGHLIGHTS

ADVENTURES BEYOND THE NURSERY

Our little explorers have been busy making wonderful memories out in the community!

Over the past few weeks, the children have enjoyed a variety of exciting outings across our nurseries. From visiting the local library to discover the joy of books, to feeding the ducks and exploring the world around them, every adventure has provided valuable learning opportunities. Tas the Bear has loved hearing all about their adventures too!

Community outings support all 7 areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

They help children develop communication skills, build confidence, strengthen physical development and encourage curiosity about the world around them.

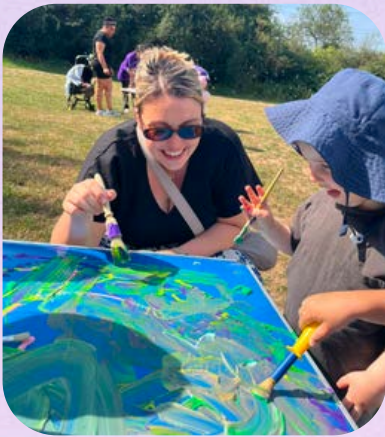
Experiences such as visiting the library, exploring nature and discovering new places also promote early literacy, mathematical thinking and an understanding of their local community.

These adventures create meaningful learning experiences, helping our children grow into confident, curious and capable learners.

Well done to all of our fantastic little explorers – we can't wait to see where our next adventure with Tas the Bear takes us!



MESSY PLAY DAY FUN!



What a fantastic time we had celebrating Messy Play Day across all of our Tots & Scholars settings!

We were delighted to welcome parents into the nursery to join their children for a fun-filled day of sensory and creative play. The children explored paint, water, foam, sand and a variety of exciting textures, enjoying hands-on experiences alongside their families. Tas the Bear loved seeing so many smiling faces and hearing all about the messy adventures!

Messy play supports children's learning in many ways, helping to develop communication, confidence, creativity, fine motor skills and early problem-solving. Most importantly, it provided a wonderful opportunity for children, parents and staff to play, laugh and learn together.

Thank you to all of the families who joined us and helped make Messy Play Day such a special event. We can't wait for our next Tots & Scholars adventure!





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YEE-HAW! GRADUATION CELEBRATION

What a fantastic send-off for our wonderful school leavers!

This year's graduation had a fun rodeo theme, and it was a day to remember. Families joined us to celebrate as the children enjoyed meeting real-life ponies, cooling off with a delicious ice cream from the ice cream van, and taking part in lots of exciting cowboy-themed activities.

Our graduation is a special opportunity to celebrate each child's achievements, recognise how much they have grown during their time at Tots & Scholars, and wish them every success as they begin their next adventure at school. It was wonderful to see so many families joining us to mark this important milestone and create lasting memories together.

Congratulations to all of our graduates – Tas the Bear is so proud of each and every one of you and wishes you the very best on your next adventure!





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READY, SET, SCHOOL!

Preparing for school is an exciting milestone, and we were delighted to welcome our preschool families to our special Transition Event.

The morning gave parents and children the opportunity to meet one another in a relaxed and welcoming environment while enjoying breakfast together. Parents were able to discuss practical ways to prepare their children for starting school, while the children took part in a circle time where they chatted about their new schools, shared their excitement and built confidence for the journey ahead.

With face painting, music and plenty of opportunities to play and make new friends, the event was a wonderful way to celebrate this important transition. It helped children become more familiar with the changes ahead, while giving families the chance to connect and support one another before the new school term begins.

We wish all of our children the very best as they take this exciting next step!





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AUGUST EVENTS AT TAS!

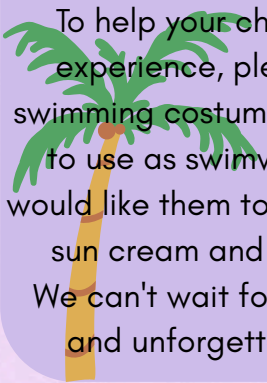
Friday 7th August – Beach Experience

Day

We are bringing the seaside fun to Tots & Scholars with our very own Beach Experience Day!

The children will have the opportunity to splash, explore, get creative and enjoy a day full of summer fun as we transform our settings into a beach-inspired adventure.

To help your child make the most of the experience, please send them in with a swimming costume or clothes they are happy to use as swimwear, swim nappies if you would like them to wear one, a towel, sun hat, sun cream and a full change of clothes. We can't wait for a day of sunshine, smiles and unforgettable summer memories!



Monday 17th – Friday 21st August –

Children's Art Week

Get ready for a week filled with creativity, imagination and wonderful masterpieces! During Children's Art Week, the children will become little artists as they explore a variety of materials, colours, textures and creative techniques. They will have the freedom to express themselves, experiment with new ideas and celebrate their own unique creations.

We can't wait to see the incredible artwork the children create and celebrate their creativity throughout the week!



Thursday 13th August – Preschool School Leavers Outing

As our preschool children prepare for their exciting next chapter, we are delighted to invite all children starting school in September to join us on a very special outing to St Albans. The children will enjoy a day of exploring and discovery as they visit St Albans Cathedral, St Albans Museum and Gallery, followed by a picnic in the park. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to spend time together, build confidence and create special memories before they begin their school journeys.

The children will be travelling by bus from our Shenley setting, so please ensure your child arrives wearing their Tots & Scholars uniform.

Further information, including timings and arrangements, will be shared through Famly.





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SAFEGUARDING & POLICY OF THE MONTH

Safer Sleep

From September 2026, updates to the EYFS Statutory Framework will introduce strengthened safer sleep guidance. We are pleased to share that all Tots & Scholars nurseries are already fully compliant, with these procedures embedded into our daily practice to ensure every child receives the highest standard of care.

Individual Sleep Needs

Every child is different, and we work closely with families to ensure their sleep routine is followed safely.

- Parents share their child's sleep patterns, routines, comforters and any medical considerations during settling-in.
- Sleep information is recorded in each child's file and reviewed regularly, or sooner if changes occur.

A Safe Sleep Environment

To provide a safe and comfortable place to rest, we ensure:

- Children sleep on waterproof sleep mats approved by the DFE.
- Individual bedding is provided by parents and stored in each child's tote bag provided by the nursery.
- Sleep areas are quiet, dimly lit, well ventilated and maintained between 16°C and 20°C.
- Children are positioned safely with appropriate spacing to promote comfort and reduce cross-contamination.
- Soothers and comforters are welcomed where agreed with parents.

Children under the age of one always sleep in a cot and are never placed on a sleep mat.

Safe Sleep Procedures

Our staff follow safer sleep guidance in line with the NHS and The Lullaby Trust recommendations.

- Babies are always placed on their backs to sleep unless medically advised otherwise.
- Children's faces are never covered, and pillows or soft bedding are not used.
- Staff remain physically present in the sleep room at all times.
- Visual sleep checks are completed at least every 10 minutes, or more frequently if required.
- Staff monitor for signs of discomfort, illness or overheating throughout the sleep period.

Children Who Don't Sleep

We understand that not every child will fall asleep.

Children who remain awake are supported to rest in a calm environment with activities such as books, puzzles, construction toys, stories or relaxing music. A dedicated quiet area is always available for children who need time to self-regulate and recharge.

Hygiene & Record Keeping

High standards of hygiene are maintained throughout our sleep provision.

- Sleep mats are cleaned before and after every use.
- Each child has their own individual sleep bag, which is sent home weekly (or sooner if required).
- Daily sleep records include sleep times, observations and any notable information, which are shared with parents during handovers and are available upon request.

Further Information

For parents who would like to learn more about safer sleep recommendations, we recommend the following trusted resources:

- [The Lullaby Trust – Safer Sleep for Babies](#) – Evidence-based safer sleep guidance, including room temperature, sleep positioning, bedding and reducing the risk of SIDS.

Our **Designated Safeguarding Lead** is **Vanda**, supported by our **Secondary Designated Safeguarding Lead, Demi**. During nursery opening hours they can be contacted via your nursery's landline. In an emergency outside of nursery hours, Vanda can be contacted on [07983 154372](tel:07983154372) and Demi on [07501 218646](tel:07501218646).

In an emergency, please contact the Police Child Abuse Investigation Team on 020 8733 5070 or dial 999.

Tots & Scholars is also proud to be part of Operation Encompass, ensuring we can provide timely support to children who may have experienced domestic abuse.