July 2026 Newsletter

This is the last newsletter of the year, some of you will return in September, but many of you will be moving on to reception and starting at a new school. We wish all of the children leaving a wonderful time in their new school.

In August Lesley who is one of our cleaners is retiring. She has worked with us for over 17 years, helping to clean up after all our wonderful messes. We wish her all the best and have invited her to the Teddy Bears' Picnic, so we can properly say good bye.

Gill

Cardboard Box Day

We are excited to be taking part in a special national event called Play Matters: Cardboard Box Day on the 10th July 2026. Please come and join us for a fun morning! Parents can join from 9.30am to 11.30am.

This day is all about celebrating the power of simple, child-led play. Instead of using toys or planned activities, the children will be exploring and creating using cardboard boxes and a few simple materials.

Teddy Bear's Picnic

We would like to invite you to the Teddy Bear's Picnic on 17th July 2026—parents can join from 10:30 to 11:30. The children will make the picnic food and will only need to bring their Teddy Bear.

However, it would really help us if you are able to give a donation towards buying the food. You can donate through ParentPay.

Tapestry

We would like to thank you for your positive feedback about Tapestry and for many posts that you have added to the children's profiles. If you would like us to print out the profile, we ask for a £10 contribution. You can also download the profile yourself if you choose to—you will get a notification when the PDF is ready to download. If we know that your child's new school uses Tapestry then we will ask them if they would like the profile transferred. Otherwise, the information is deleted about 3 months after your child leaves the school.

Summer holiday ideas

National Maritime Museum - Pick up one of the family trails and explore objects, people and stories.

The Cove Playground - An exciting new playground at the National Maritime Museum.

Picnic in Abbey ruins - We have a wonderful free resource with the Abbey, let the children run some energy off amongst history and nature.

Danson Splash Park - Interactive water park, playground in Danson Park.

Museum of London Docklands - All fun and free! There's a mix of bookable and drop-in events across the week – please check individual session listings for more detail on dates, timings and booking methods before you visit.

Dates for your diary

10th July **Cardboard Box Day** - 9.30am-11.30am—Building and making with the children - where will your imagination take you?

17th July **Teddy Bears Picnic**—children can bring their teddies to a picnic that they will have helped to make; join the children from 10.30am

17th July Last day of term - children are finishing at normal time

7th September Children who are staying, return to school

Screen time

With the long summer holidays approaching, a reminder about screen time can be helpful. There may well be occasions when your child needs to use your phone, Ipad or watch TV, but it can be surprising how little time is recommended before it can start to have negative impact on your child's development. (Screen time is any screen—TV, tablet, computer, phone.)

Screen time recommendations by age

Age Group	Amount of screen time	Type of screen time
Babies (0-24 months)	No screen time	Only video chatting is allowed
Children (2-5 years)	1 hour or less per day	Educational and interactive content is preferred, but non-educational content is allowed
Children (6-15 years)	Less than 2 hours per day	Recreational content is allowed, but healthy habits should also be encouraged