

Ladybird Forest Pre-School

Newsletter 4 2026

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to our latest newsletter, which includes important information for the Summer terms. We also give some updates from the team.

It's been a short but busy half-term, and we've enjoyed welcoming Full House Theatre to the setting, seeing you at Parents' Evening and celebrating Mother's Day. We hope you enjoy the cooking challenge over the holidays and look forward to seeing your chef's photos on Tapestry!

Best wishes

Amanda Sanders, Pre-School Manager

Dates for your Diary:

Event	Dates
Easter holiday	w/c 30 th March - Friday 10 th April
Easter Holiday Club	w/c 30 th March - Thursday 2 nd April
Pre-School re-opens	Monday 13 th April
Happy Chicks visit	13 th April - 23 rd April
May Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May
May half-term	w/c Monday 26 th May - Friday 29 th May
Pre-School re-opens	Monday 1 st June
Bingo & Chips Night	Friday 5 th June 7pm start. Details to follow
Sports Day	Friday 12 th June 2pm - 3pm. Details to follow
Dads' Breakfast	Saturday 13 th June. Details to follow
Leavers' Party	Wednesday 8 th July. Details to follow
Amphill Big Tent Weekend	Sunday 12 th July. Details to follow
Last day of term	Friday 17 th July
Summer Holiday Club	w/c 20 th , w/c 27 th July, w/c 3 rd August
Pre-School re-opens	Friday 4 th September

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General News:

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea:

We had a full house at the Mother's Day Afternoon Tea earlier this month. Thanks for celebrating your special day with us!



Parent and Carer Survey results:

Thanks for taking the time to complete our Parent and Carer Survey at the recent Parents' Evening. The results from the survey are attached. You also made some very positive comments, and left some really helpful feedback about areas that you would like us to improve. We will consider how we can use this feedback to make improvements.

Easter Cooking Competition:

In February half-term, several children signed up for our first cooking competition. Thanks to the children who took part and shared their photos on Tapestry. Congratulations to our winners, Freya and Edie! Great cheffing!





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Good luck to those of you taking part in the Easter cooking competition. Please do share your experiences on Tapestry, and we will let you know who wins our special chef's spoon!

Easter Holiday Club 2026:

The Easter Holiday Club is running from Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April, from 8am - 4pm. If you need a space, please contact admin@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk or call the office on 01525 4060703.

Happy Chick Company 13th April - 23rd April:

Straight after the holidays, we will be visited by The Happy Chick Company! We will watch over 10 eggs, as they wobble and cluck, before hatching little chicks. For the next week, we will see the chicks grow, before they are collected and rehomed. We can't wait to meet our little friends! For more information, please see <https://www.thehappychickcompany.co.uk/>

Starting school September 2026:

If your child is starting school in September, you will find out the results of your application for a lower school place on 16th April. Please kindly email enquiries@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk to let us know what school you have been allocated, so that we can start planning the school transitions. Thank you!

Fundraising and Projects:

Good News:

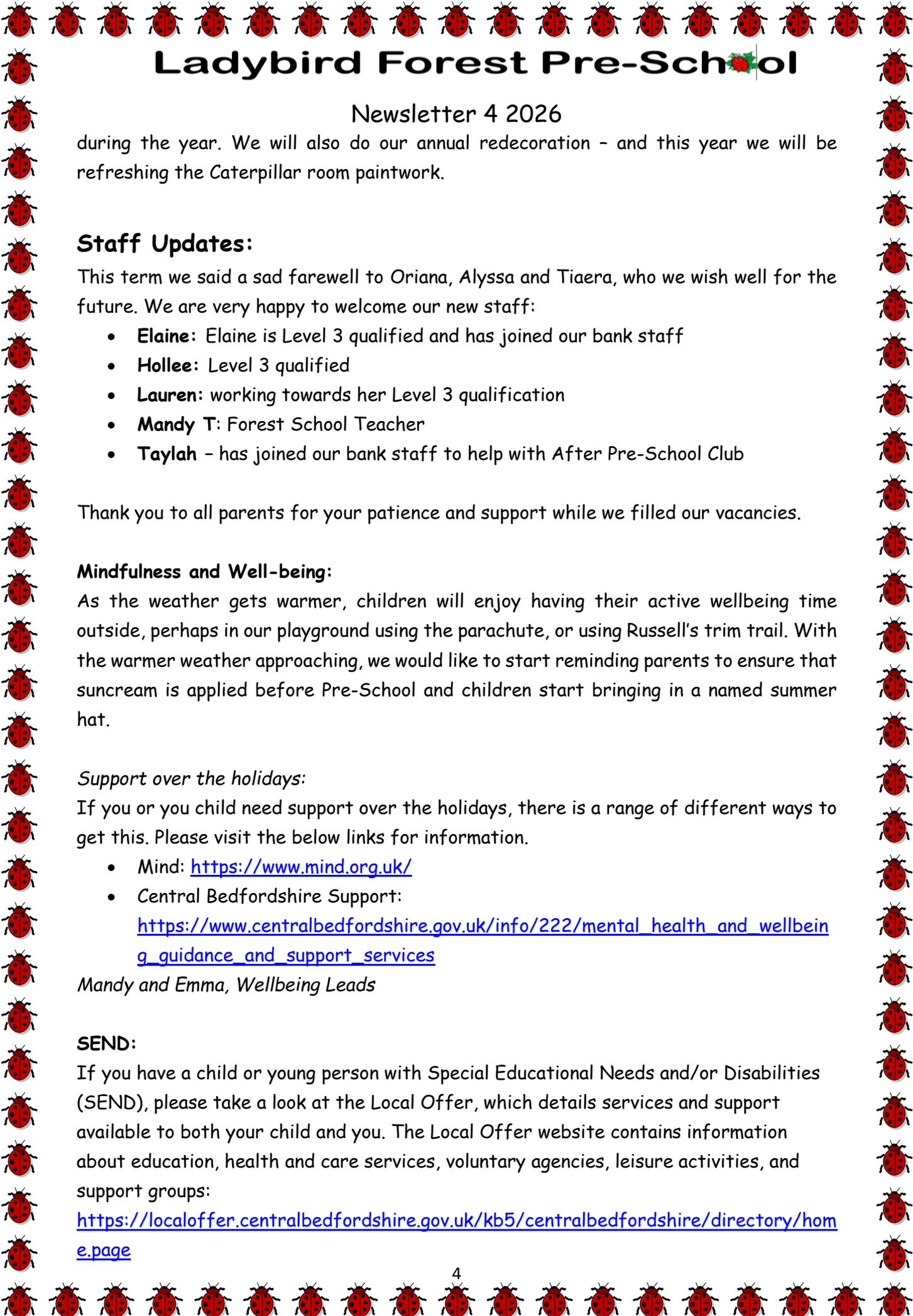
With the grant secured, work starts during the Easter break to replace the Pre-School fencing adjacent to the school's reception playground, both gates leading into the Pre-School, the outside reading area, steps leading into the Caterpillar room and two benches. We will be using recycled plastics purchased from a UK based company, to help our carbon footprint.

Fundraising:

We have recently signed up for both Tesco and Waitrose token schemes and hope to purchase a new large outside sensory tunnel and outside permanent musical instrument stand. We will let you know when the schemes go live.

Projects:

During the Summer term 2026 we hope to erect new Forest School signage, a new outside musical station and an outside wooden sensory tunnel. This will depend on funds raised



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during the year. We will also do our annual redecoration - and this year we will be refreshing the Caterpillar room paintwork.

Staff Updates:

This term we said a sad farewell to Oriana, Alyssa and Tiaera, who we wish well for the future. We are very happy to welcome our new staff:

- **Elaine:** Elaine is Level 3 qualified and has joined our bank staff
- **Hollee:** Level 3 qualified
- **Lauren:** working towards her Level 3 qualification
- **Mandy T:** Forest School Teacher
- **Taylah** - has joined our bank staff to help with After Pre-School Club

Thank you to all parents for your patience and support while we filled our vacancies.

Mindfulness and Well-being:

As the weather gets warmer, children will enjoy having their active wellbeing time outside, perhaps in our playground using the parachute, or using Russell's trim trail. With the warmer weather approaching, we would like to start reminding parents to ensure that suncream is applied before Pre-School and children start bringing in a named summer hat.

Support over the holidays:

If you or you child need support over the holidays, there is a range of different ways to get this. Please visit the below links for information.

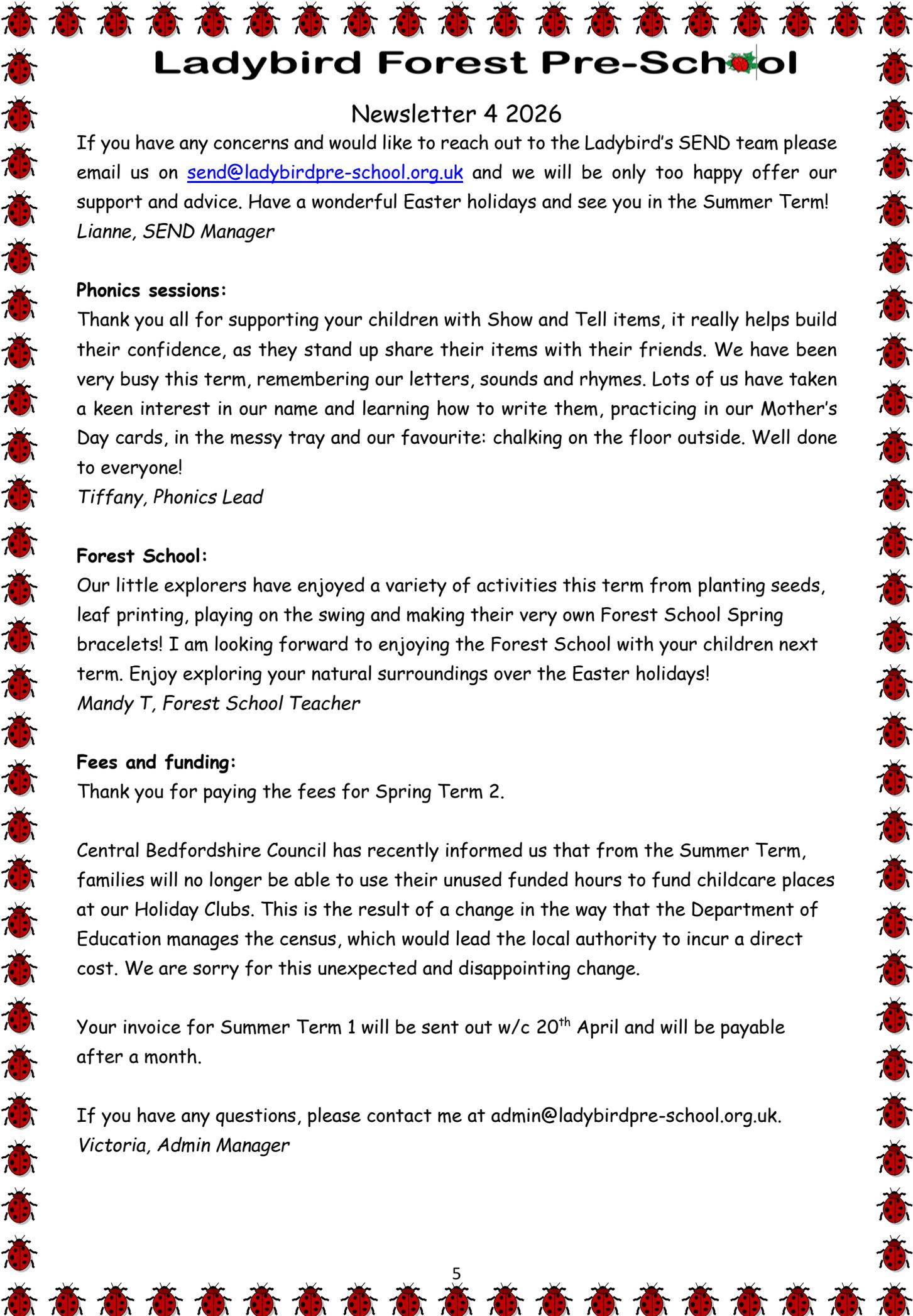
- Mind: <https://www.mind.org.uk/>
- Central Bedfordshire Support:
https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/222/mental_health_and_wellbeing_guidance_and_support_services

Mandy and Emma, Wellbeing Leads

SEND:

If you have a child or young person with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), please take a look at the Local Offer, which details services and support available to both your child and you. The Local Offer website contains information about education, health and care services, voluntary agencies, leisure activities, and support groups:

<https://localoffer.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/centralbedfordshire/directory/home.page>



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If you have any concerns and would like to reach out to the Ladybird's SEND team please email us on send@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk and we will be only too happy offer our support and advice. Have a wonderful Easter holidays and see you in the Summer Term!

Lianne, SEND Manager

Phonics sessions:

Thank you all for supporting your children with Show and Tell items, it really helps build their confidence, as they stand up share their items with their friends. We have been very busy this term, remembering our letters, sounds and rhymes. Lots of us have taken a keen interest in our name and learning how to write them, practicing in our Mother's Day cards, in the messy tray and our favourite: chalking on the floor outside. Well done to everyone!

Tiffany, Phonics Lead

Forest School:

Our little explorers have enjoyed a variety of activities this term from planting seeds, leaf printing, playing on the swing and making their very own Forest School Spring bracelets! I am looking forward to enjoying the Forest School with your children next term. Enjoy exploring your natural surroundings over the Easter holidays!

Mandy T, Forest School Teacher

Fees and funding:

Thank you for paying the fees for Spring Term 2.

Central Bedfordshire Council has recently informed us that from the Summer Term, families will no longer be able to use their unused funded hours to fund childcare places at our Holiday Clubs. This is the result of a change in the way that the Department of Education manages the census, which would lead the local authority to incur a direct cost. We are sorry for this unexpected and disappointing change.

Your invoice for Summer Term 1 will be sent out w/c 20th April and will be payable after a month.

If you have any questions, please contact me at admin@ladybirdpre-school.org.uk.

Victoria, Admin Manager

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May/June Birthdays 2026:

Happy 4th Birthday: Marcus, William, Evie, Hazel, Maisie, Max, Ronnie, Ross, William

Staff Birthday: Nicole, Charlotte, Hui,



We wish you all a lovely Easter break



Happy Holidays:

Mandy, Emma, Vic, Lianne, Alyssa, Charlotte, Eliane, Elisa, Hannah, Hollee, Hui, Kadena, Kayla, Lauren, Mandy T, Mary, Nicole, Tiffany.