



Caldecote Day Nursery



Newsletter August 2025

This month's Learning Focus: **Children's Interests, Rugby**

This month's Value: **Courage**

Safeguarding: Water Safety

Over the last seven years 30 children under 10 years old have drowned in holiday swimming pools abroad. RoSPA believes that all of these deaths could have been prevented. This year you may be having a 'staycation' but the risk of drowning in the sea, at a hotel pool or a paddling pool can still be great.

Key facts behind these drownings:

- **Toddlers (0 - 3 years)** - Two to three years are most at risk. In many cases the toddler wandered away from parents and fell into an unsupervised pool.
- **Young children (4-5 years)** - Some drownings happened after the child was last seen playing in the water or playing near to water. In many cases parents were unaware of the problem until the child was found in the water (most commonly a hotel swimming pool).
- **Older children (6-9 years)** - In all of these cases the children were swimming.
- **Parental supervision** - Drowning children don't cry out for help or wave to be rescued - they disappear under the surface - often unseen and unheard. Adults need to be vigilant whenever a child is in or near a pool.

Key points for parents to consider before you go:

- Check the safety arrangements in advance
- Teach children never to swim alone
- Be cautious about booking holiday homes with pools, that do not have safety fencing
- Take a first aid course - know how to resuscitate a child
- Ask your travel company if the hotel pool has a lifeguard

When you are there:

- Actively supervise all young children near water
- Choose pools that are fenced with locking gates
- Even if a pool has a lifeguard - know where your children are, and what they are doing in the water
- Let children take swimming classes whilst on holiday - they are a great way of gaining water confidence and learning essential water safety skills
- Inflatables are not a substitute for supervision or swimming ability

Rules for children:

- Water safety rules for children
- Never swim alone
- Do not dive into unknown depths of water, and only jump feet first into water
- Do not push or jump onto others
- Know where to get help in an emergency

Taken from RoSPA's website

Reminder

Please ensure that your child has a **named** sunhat and **named** sun cream in nursery at all times, as we will try and make the most of the sunshine...when it arrives!



Leaving to start school?

If you are leaving to start school in September, **please remember you need to give at least one month's notice.**



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Family Focus: Schemas

At nursery, we aim to work with parents and carers, supporting children in all aspects of their development and well-being. Each month we will highlight an area that parents and carers may be struggling with. **This month our focus is: Schemas**

What is a Schema?:

- In its simplest form, a schema is a pattern of repeated behaviour within a child's play. These urges and fascinations can help children to learn and express themselves. There are many types of schemas and some children may show one or more and others may show none at all.

How to schemas help learning?:

- Schematic play encourages; exploration, prediction, questioning, physical development, language skills, thinking skills, risky play, knowledge building, imagination.

What are the schemas and how can you support them?:

- Transporting:** Moving things from place to place; themselves or objects. Enjoys picking up and putting down. Support by: Providing containers or bags to allow transportation. Use large vehicles to facilitate moving objects.
- Orienteering:** Likes to put objects in different places to look at them. May also like to position themselves; lying on side etc. Support by: Providing mirrors, binoculars, magnifying glasses. Allowing children to sit or lie down in unusual ways.
- Rotating:** Likes to spin things, including themselves. Enjoys, roundabouts, being swung around, wheels, washing machines. Support by: Offering opportunities for mixing, stirring, using wheels and cogs. Outdoor play involving spinning.
- Positioning:** Enjoys lining things up or putting them in specific positions. May also like to sort and create groups of items. Support by: Providing collections of toys or loose parts to engage in this. Wooden blocks and pegboards may also be of interest.
- Trajectory:** They may enjoy dropping or throwing things from up high or climbing. Running water / pouring sand features too. Support by: Offering sand and water play; balls, beanbags, paper aeroplanes, bubble play.
- Transforming:** Changing materials, mixing mud with water, mixing paint. Observing and feeling what happens to materials. Support by: Providing materials to mix and combine; cooking activities that involve mixing or melting.
- Enclosing:** Likes closed spaces and boundaries; being inside a box; making a fence around a group of items; borders around art. Support by: Encouraging den play, using items to create walls and borders, such as wooden planks, bricks, and cardboard pieces.
- Enveloping:** Enjoys wrapping themselves up or wrapping objects up. Support by: Providing blankets to wrap dolls / soft toys / themselves. Offer paper or fabric scraps to wrap presents.
- Connecting:** Likes to connect and disconnect items. This can be anything from Lego to paper with glue. Support by: Offering connecting materials; glue, tape, paper. Also construction items that connect and disconnect.

Why are schemas important?

- By observing and understanding schemas, we can be more aware of a child's interests, their thinking and their preferred ways of learning. This understanding can enrich their play and help to plan next steps in learning while following their interests.

Schemas and children with additional needs such as ASD:

- Identifying and supporting children with schemas is also useful if your child has special educational needs, such as Autism. There are some schemas which are more commonly displayed than others:
- Vertical and Horizontal Trajectories:** opening and closing doors, lining up vehicles, climbing, stepping up and down, banging objects together, walking forwards and backwards on the same line, turning lights on and off, lying flat on the floor.
- Enveloping:** feeling safe in a den, pop up tent, wrapped in a blanket – this can be indoors or outside.
- Rotation:** spinning around and flapping hands and arms when excited by something.

Please remember that a child may display lots of these schemas for extended periods of time or may only display them briefly or not at all. It is part of natural learning and development which we support in nursery and you can support at home. Please contact the office if you have any questions or would like to learn more about schemas.



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Home Learning Ideas

Here are some ideas you could try with your child this month...

Play in water at home or visit the park and play in the sand with a bucket and spade.

Talk about clothes that you might wear to the beach or pack to take on a sunny holiday.

Talk about or draw an animal that you might see at the beach or in a rock pool.

Share some books about the seaside. Commotion in the Ocean, Sharing a Shell and The Singing Mermaid are our favourites!

Try making our seasonal recipe of the month and let us know how it tastes!

Don't forget to send us a photo of your home learning via Family.



Summer Term 2025 Dates for your diary...

Bank Holiday Closure – Monday 25th August

Autumn Term 2025 Dates for your diary...

Term Time Only children return on:

Monday 8th September when funding begins again.

Harvest donations collected – w/c 29.09.25 & 06.10.25

Nursery's 30th Birthday Celebrations – Wednesday 1st October

(more details to follow, next month)

Our full term dates calendar is available on our website:

<https://www.caldecotedaynursery.co.uk/parents>

Information about events will also be uploaded to the calendar on Famly.

Meals at Caldecote...

We are delighted to announce that we have partnered with 'The Nursery Catering Company' who will be providing our meals moving forward.

From **w/c 4th August**, as we begin to use our refurbished kitchen, our lunches will be provided by them and from **w/c 8th September**, both lunches and teas will be provided by them.

Their summer menus are available on their website and they will be launching their new Autumn / Winter menus soon, which will begin on the 1st September.

We will be serving the 'Week 3' menu during w/c 4th August and the menu works on a three week rolling basis, with all allergens catered for. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Click here to view their current menu:

<https://www.nurserycateringcompany.com/summer2025>



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Leadership Focus

At nursery, we have several staff who take a leadership role. To raise their profile with parents and celebrate the good work that they do, each month we are going to highlight a different role and provide you with some information.

This month it is our Time To Talk Champions: Lauren T, Sophie, Leanne & Tiffany (who returns from mat leave in August)

During June & July, our Champions have been trained in 'Legro' to be able to further support children in nursery, but what is Legro?

'time to talk'TM is supporting the development of high-quality **Language Enrichment group** provision in Warwickshire's Early Years settings through their new resource 'Legro'. We were one of a few settings in Warwickshire, chosen to be trained with the new resources and were delighted to take part.

Legro is a Language Enrichment Group programme which supports children with an 'amber' level of communication need who are in Pre-School. We have also adapted the programme to be able to target children in Toddler Room as well as Baby Room so that the support is consistent across the nursery. The programme also works to support children with English as an additional language and also those who are lacking in confidence.



It uses the 'chatter matters'TM and 'time to talk'TM principles and embeds these within the context of storytelling. It allows for 'WellComm Big Book of Ideas' activities to be incorporated into session planning making sure each child develops their language and communication skills to their full potential.

Each block of Legro consists of 6 weeks of session plans. The programme has been jointly created by NHS Speech and Language Therapists, teachers and Warwickshire's Early Years team.

Each block is based on a story book which the children will become immersed in as they learn and develop their speech and language skills.

Please do not worry if your child is taking part in a group – it is just part of the continued support we offer!



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This month's seasonal recipe to try at home...

Lemon & Coriander Hummus



Try this easy recipe with your child to get them involved and interested in food! Cooking together is a good way to connect.

Ingredients:

- 2 x cans chickpeas, in water, drained
- 2 fat garlic cloves, roughly chopped
- 3 tbsp Greek yogurt
- 3 tbsp tahini paste
- 3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil, plus extra
- zest and juice 2 lemons
- 20g pack coriander



Method:

1. Put everything but the coriander into a food processor, then whizz to a fairly smooth mix.
2. Scrape down the sides of the processor if you need to.
3. Season the hummus generously, then add the coriander and pulse until roughly chopped.
4. Spoon into a serving bowl, drizzle with olive oil, then serve.

As the Government expansion of 30 hours for children aged 9 months+ rolls out in September, this is a reminder to all parents to ensure that you keep your childcare account up to date and that you renew your code every three months. If you do not, then you may not be able to access the funding at the start of the new term.

Your code must have a start date of 31st August, or earlier, to be valid for September 2025.

If you have booked a space or additional sessions for September, but did not have a code at the time, please apply for one as soon as possible and send the details to the nursery office.

We will be checking codes that we already have and will be in touch if there are any issues.



Childcare
Choices

To keep your 30 hours free childcare place **you** need to check your details are up to date every 3 months. Go to gov.uk/childcareaccount

HM Government



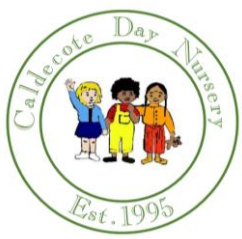
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Our July Learning...



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