NEWSLETTER
May 2026

Here we are, halfway through the summer term and those summer holidays are flying towards us at an unstoppable speed!

This has been an important half term for Little Explorers, watching our dream of a baby room come to a full time reality has been simply amazing. Our baby room team have done the most incredible job of welcoming, and settling our "Little Acorns" in. Our older children ("Big Oaks"), love going to say hello at outside time and seeing them all as excited as we are, completing our Little Explorers Family.

I'm sure you've also noticed our new re-branding. We were lucky enough to secure some "Media Funding" which resulted in a rebrand of our logo. We were very hesitant to move away from the logo that had been with the Preschool since moving to Brown Clee Primary 11 years ago but felt this was the perfect time. What took us to this new design of an acorn and leaf? Well, there is an old proverb I'm sure you've all heard of that says: *"Mighty oaks from little acorns grow."* - We chose our logo and room names to reflect this belief - that within every child lies endless potential, waiting to be nurtured and encouraged as they grow.

According to legend, the acorn is a symbol of how hard work and care pay off over time. Nestled deep within an acorn is the potential for something great. With nourishment from the earth and warmth from the sun, the tiny acorn begins to grow, little by little, until in time it becomes a strong and majestic oak tree.

Like the acorn, each child's journey with us is built on small steps and everyday moments of learning, discovery, and joy. Our logo and room names celebrate this journey.

This half term we have had great fun welcoming in some pets (some cuddly and some not so cuddly!) for pet week. The children enjoyed a vets role play. We looked at healthy eating and planted lots of seeds for our raised beds. It's been rewarding for the children to see those seeds popping up and starting to grow. We virtually travelled around the world, looking at different countries. We looked at what they ate, what kind of different music they listened to and looked at some of their famous buildings. The children tried lots of different foods and had fun building their own structures with the straws and connectors. We have finished the half term with two weeks of "Fantasy", this has focused activities around Pirates and Princesses. We have enjoyed sailing the seas on our very own pirate ship, doing LOTS of dressing up and looking for treasure. The children have had a go at using sign language to sing "There was a princess long ago". Please have a go with your child, they've loved it!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMlzCy2qM2k&list=RDWMlzCy2qM2k&start_radio=1

We had Anna from Diddi dance join us for three weeks. She would usually do a six-week course but we couldn't have our Little Acorns miss out on this experience so Anna did a session in each room on each of her visits. This term's sessions had a "Country" theme which was great fun!

We are returning after the half term break to a week of "Under The Sea" then "Minibeasts" and then……the return of our **"Music and Arts Festival"!!** This returns for its 3rd year and we cant wait! We already have lots of fun and guests lined up and hope for a few more to confirm too. If you, or anyone you know has a skill (awesome story telling, written a book?, can play an instrument, sings, can juggle or eat fire (only joking on that one!))….please let us know, we'd love to have you come and show off to the children. This will run for 2 weeks and there will be something happening each day. We will then have the last three weeks of term looking at sports (including sports day on Tuesday 30th June), camping and "The Road to School". A reminder that Graduation is on the last day of term, Friday 17th July at 2pm where we will be celebrating our "Schoolies" coming to the end of their preschool journey. We will have fun and refreshments for all.

Have a great half term holiday and we can't wait for all the fun happening in next half term!!

Your team,

Laura, Jordan, Ruth, Jasmine, Claire and Katie

Please remember to bring back your raffle tickets!!

Diary Dates

End of half term: Friday 22nd May
May half term: Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May
Second half Summer term starts: Monday 1st June
End of term: Friday 17th July

Father's day afternoon tea: Friday 19th June 2pm

Sports day: Tuesday 30th June 2pm -3pm

Graduation ceremony: Friday 17th July 2pm-3pm

Summer Fete and COLOURRUN!!: Saturday 27th June

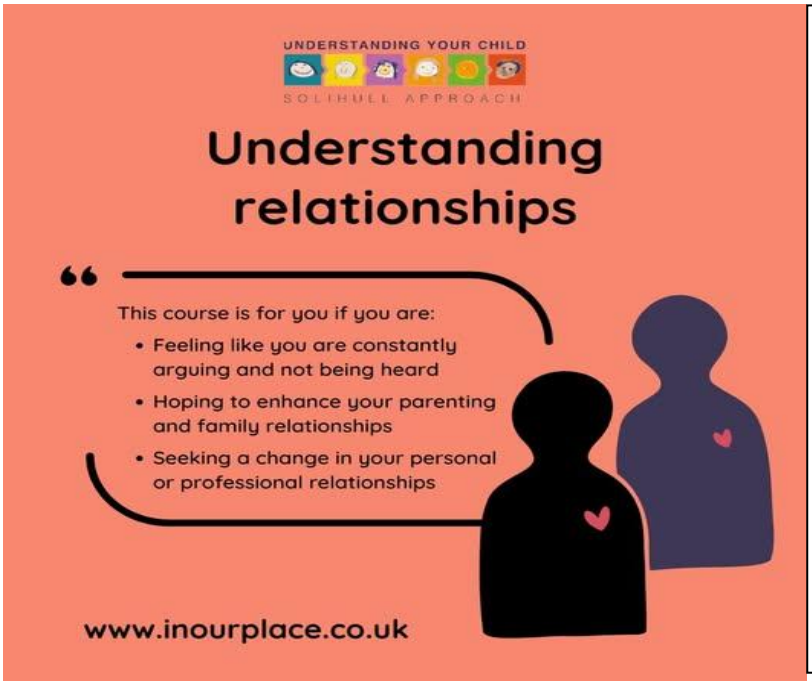
Little explorers AGM: Tuesday 7th July 7pm

Drop offs and Pickups polite reminder: Please remember that unless prebooked, children should not arrive before 8.55am each morning and should be picked up at 3pm.

Staffing is organised around prebooked breakfast and afterschool club places. Please make sure we are given as much notice as possible if you need your child in for one of these sessions. For last minute emergencies, please call.

For afterschool sessions finishing at 4pm, please make sure your child has been collected BY 4pm. Staff members own childcare arrangements are arranged around this.

Change to collection: Our routine is fitted around finishing the day at 3pm, picking up before this time can disrupt our routine. To avoid these disruptions to our end of day routines, we are now asking parents to wait at the door for 3pm collections. We will then bring the children out one by one for you to take home. If you do need to pick up early for an appointment etc, please phone and let us know beforehand.



A FREE online course for Shropshire residents. This virtual course covers feelings, communication, conflict in relationships, anger, repair and more.
Why would anyone want to do a course on understanding their relationships? Well, you may want to celebrate it, you may want to give it a bit of an MOT or you may feel your relationship is in need of some attention. Maybe you feel you're drifting, or perhaps things have been difficult lately. You're looking for a way forward.
Relationships can be difficult, complicated, fun, satisfying, exciting, annoying, bring out the best in us, bring out the worst in us. We're often in one, but we don't often spend much time on them. So here's the chance!
You can complete the course at a time and pace to suit you. Use the access code DARWIN18 to do the course for free. Find out more about the 'Understanding your relationship' course and enrol now.
https://orlo.uk/SywF0





FRIENDS OF BROWN CLEE SCHOOL AND LITTLE EXPLORERS

SUMMER FETE & COLOUR RUN

Join us on Saturday 27th June at Brown Clee School for an afternoon of fun for all of the family







BBQ – BAR – MUSIC
· bouncy castle ·
· fair games ·
· face painting & glitter ·
· tombola · raffle ·
bottle tombola
· cake stall ·
and much much more!

Join us 12-3pm

Colour Run 1pm

COLOUR RUN - BOOKING ESSENTIAL - TICKETS HERE:

What to Pack Each Day

Starting nursery and Preschool is an exciting milestone! To help your child feel comfortable and settled, here's a helpful guide to what to bring on their first day, and for each day thereafter.

Packed Lunch

Please provide a healthy packed lunch each day that meets expectations set out in our Healthy Eating and Nutrition Policy (unless your child is booked to have school dinners). Examples of what to pack are also found in our Healthy Packed Lunch Guide.

We kindly ask that:

- Lunchboxes are clearly labelled with your child's name
- Food is nut-free
- An ice pack is included
- Grapes and similar foods are cut lengthways
- Fresh drinking water will always be available.

Water Bottle

Please supply a named water bottle each day that is filled with water only.

Clothes

Please bring:

- 2–3 full changes of clothes - little accidents and messy play are all part of learning and growing so we often need a change!
- Socks and underwear
- Weather-appropriate items (coat, jumper, sun hat, etc.)
- Shoes for indoors (slippers or indoor croc style shoes)

Please label everything clearly with your child's name.

Nappies & Changing Essentials

- Enough nappies for the day
- We provide Aldi sensitive wipes but if you would like us to use your own, preferred wipes, please supply these.
- Preferred Nappy cream (labelled)

Outdoor Clothing

We spend a lot of time outdoors in all seasons, so please provide:

- Waterproof suit
- Coat (waterproof in wet weather, warm for the cold weather)
- Wellies or waterproof booties
- Sun hat and sun cream (summer)
- Warm hat and gloves (winter)

Please label everything clearly with your child's name.

Comfort Items

If your child has a comforter, blanket, small soft toy, or familiar item, please feel free to send it in. These can be very helpful during settling in. As you child settles and becomes more confident, we will encourage your child to put their comforter in their bag once happily playing.

Toys from Home

We understand that children often want to bring their own toys in from home. We kindly ask that unless it is for a "show and tell" where it will go away in their bag afterwards, toys from home are left at home. It can cause upset for all children, and we have plenty of toys to occupy your child here at Preschool. This also stops the possibility of home toys getting broken or lost.

For Babies

If your child is in our baby room, please provide extra to the above:

- Bottles (2–3 bottles, sterilised if under the age of 1)
- Formula or expressed breast milk (clearly labelled)
- Dummies (if used)
- Comforter or special blanket (if needed)
- All in one bib if preferred
- Indoor booties

Please refer to our Formula Milk and Breast Milk policy for more information on what milk feeding products to bring.