THE PATHWAYS POST

PARENTS' NEWSLETTER • WEEK COMMENCING 9 NOVEMBER 2026

NEWS, DATES AND LITTLE MOMENTS THAT MATTER

"Childhood serves a purpose; it isn't something to get through or speed up." — Tracy Gillett

A note from Caroline

Dear Parents,

Apologies that this newsletter is a little later than usual following my fractured wrist! Your branch managers have been keeping you informed, but I also value the opportunity to write to you each month.

Thank you for choosing Pathways and for working with us to give your child the best possible start in life.

Dates for your diary

Parents' information evening

Wednesday 18 November • 7.30–8.45 pm • Woodland Trails

Join staff for a workshop on Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), including children's behaviour.

Nursery photographs

Our photographer will visit each nursery in the morning. If your child does not usually attend that session, you are welcome to bring them in for a photograph.

Mon 23 Nov — Balsall Common

Tue 24 Nov — The Courtyard

Wed 25 Nov — Warwick

Thu 26 Nov — Honiley

Fri 27 Nov — Woodland Trails

Christmas family sing-songs

Join us for an informal sing-song with the children, followed by activities, light refreshments, our annual party and a visit from Santa!

Mon 14 Dec — Balsall Common • 9.30–11 am

Tue 15 Dec — Warwick • 10–11.30 am

Wed 16 Dec — Honiley • 9.30–11 am

Thu 17 Dec — The Courtyard • 10–11.30 am

Fri 18 Dec — Woodland Trails • 10–11.30 am

Other important dates

Friday 20th November – Animal Day. We will be enjoying a fun-filled day of animal-themed activities, exploring the wonderful world of animals through stories, songs, creative crafts and exciting learning experiences. Children are welcome to bring in a favourite cuddly animal or dress up as their favourite animal to join in the fun! We look forward to a wild and wonderful day of learning!

Week commencing 7 December — Parent consultations. Please contact your nursery to arrange an appointment.

Thursday 10 December — Christmas Jumper Day in support of Save the Children. Festive clothes and optional donations are welcome.

Friday 18 December — End of the funded term.

Fundraising update

Funds raised through the photographer will be split equally: 50% to Operation Christmas and 50% towards extra resources for the children.

Please keep these dates handy. Your nursery team can help with any questions.

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FESTIVE SPECIAL • 21–23 DECEMBER

Santa Special!

Working? Shopping? Wrapping? We can help!

Our Christmas Shopping Days offer extra nursery sessions on 21, 22 and 23 December for children aged 2–7 years.

Times and prices

9.00 am–3.00 pm: £30 per child (aged over 2).

Extra hours from 7.30–9.00 am or after 3.00 pm: £6 per hour.

A limited number of places may also be available for school-aged siblings and children attending our holiday clubs or before- and after-school provision, including Key Stage 1 children.

To book, please ask at your nursery. The original booking arrangements specify cash payment.

A little festive magic

A chance for children to enjoy a special nursery day while grown-ups get ready for Christmas. Places are limited, so please enquire early.

Nursery moments





Santa Special • 21, 22 & 23 December

Please check availability directly with your nursery before making plans.

Follow us on your nursery Facebook page.

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LEARNING AND LIFE AT NURSERY

Learning through the seasons

This autumn, our curriculum focus has been Personal, Social and Emotional Development — helping children build relationships, understand feelings and grow in confidence.

Next term, we will focus on Communication and Language, with a special emphasis on stories and storytelling.

Children have also explored Remembrance and Diwali, discussed staying safe around Bonfire Night and enjoyed other seasonal experiences.

Taking time to learn

We are looking closely at the quality of our interactions with children. That means slowing down, listening carefully and allowing time for meaningful conversations and play, rather than rushing from one routine to the next.

This approach, sometimes called "slow pedagogy", helps us notice children's interests and support their learning thoughtfully. You can read more under Quality of Education on our website.

Positive behaviour

We are proud of the progress children make as they learn to manage feelings, follow routines and treat others kindly. Our Behaviour, Attitudes and Routines policy explains the consistent, supportive approach we use at nursery.

Using similar approaches at home can be helpful. The policy is available on our website.

Keeping in touch on ParentZone

Please continue to share news and questions with your child's key person through ParentZone. We aim to add a photo and caption every couple of weeks, provide two to three assessments each year and share written observations twice a term.

Policies and safeguarding

We are reviewing and updating the policies we share with families. There have been no major changes, but please take a look at the latest versions on our website.

Our Intimate Care and Nappy Changing policy has recently been updated as we move from group records to individual child records.

All staff undertake safeguarding training. Please report any safeguarding concern about our provision promptly to the office by email or by requesting a call back. Our Safeguarding Director, Beth Casey, will contact you.

We are required to report child protection concerns in line with local authority procedures and to check and record any existing injuries we notice.

Your feedback matters

We welcome compliments, questions and concerns. Recent local authority visits and an Ofsted regulatory visit identified no safeguarding issues. We continue to reflect, learn and improve, and your feedback is always valued.

Please see our website for the complaints and feedback procedure.

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COMMUNITY NOTICES AND USEFUL CONTACTS

News from Pathways

Our refreshed website

Our website has a new look, with information about funding, policies and nursery life, as well as a chat feature for questions. From January 2027, we plan to make this newsletter available through a website link.

Snow and adverse weather

Our adverse weather policy is available online. We will also share the link if it becomes relevant.

We're recruiting

We have full-time, part-time and bank staff opportunities across our settings. We would love to hear from qualified Level 3 practitioners, newly qualified staff and people looking for a new opportunity in a warm, child-centred team.

Please apply through our website, and do share our vacancies with anyone who may be interested.

Recommend a friend

Some nursery places remain available. If you know a family looking for childcare, please encourage them to book a visit through our website. Ask us about our bring-a-friend voucher.

A reminder about parking

Please park considerately and keep access routes clear, especially at The Courtyard. This helps everyone move safely between their cars and the nursery entrance.

Thank you for your continued support. Wishing all our families a happy and safe festive season. — Caroline A. Jones, on behalf of PNCC Ltd

From Beth Casey and Caroline Jones

How to contact us

We aim to reply to emails within five working days. During particularly busy periods, replies may take longer. For urgent matters, please speak to your branch manager or mark your email "Urgent response required".

General enquiries

Extra sessions, invoices, changes to sessions, funding codes and registration:

info@pathwaysnursery.co.uk

To report an absence

Please contact your nursery directly by telephone or email.

Balsall Common
balsall@pathwaysnursery.co.uk
01676 532298 / 0735296642

The Courtyard
info@thecourtyardnurseryschool.co.uk
0121 389 8678

Honiley
honiley@pathwaysnursery.co.uk
07851 348666

Woodland Trails
woodlandtrails@pathwaysnursery.co.uk
0121 788 8200

Warwick
warwick@pathwaysnursery.co.uk
01926 839777 / 07926690700

Useful family resources

Screen time: beststartinlife.gov.uk/screen-time-under-5s/

Safer sleep: nhs.uk (search "safer sleep advice for babies")

Oral health: nhs.uk (search "baby and toddler teeth")

Childcare funding: beststartinlife.gov.uk

50 Things to Do Before You're 5: warwickshire.50thingstodo.org