



POLKADOTS

PolkaDots Nursery@Cresswood Hall

NEWSLETTER



February 2024

Healthy Eating

It's been wonderful to see ideas from our Healthy Eating Packed Lunch Workshop coming into the nursery this term. Parents have told us that the PDF resources we shared with our families at the end of last term have been really useful. This term we've seen children enjoying creative packed lunches that most importantly are healthy and varied too!

Snacks are included in EC payments and PolkaDots' Snack Menu continues to change every week. [Visit our website](#) to see what children are having this week and see if it helps you plan lunches that week too. All this means PolkaDots is on track for Camden's "Little Steps to Healthy Eating" Award too!



We've been braving the wintry weather at PolkaDots and are all looking forward to Spring being just around the corner.

We have lots of lovely things to look forward to this half-term at the nursery. We have arts and crafts activities planned plus trips to celebrate special days—including Chinese New Year, Valentines Day and Pancake Day!

Our children continue to love having Dance class every week, along with our other favourites Spanish and Music time, and Makaton sing and sign! Thank you all for your EC payments that make all these classes and our Snack Menu possible.

We're getting lots of applications for Autumn Term. If you know anyone looking for a place in September, tell them to get in touch with us on **07398000267** to book a place on our next Open Afternoon on Monday 26th February.

We'd love to welcome as many of our children back after the summer holidays as we can. We're saving places for our children already with us so thanks for letting our team know about your September plans. If you've applied for a school in September we'll be in touch in April to confirm where your little one is going to ensure a smooth transition.

We're looking forward to seeing you all after the half-term holidays when we've plenty to look forward to, including World Book Day and one of our favourites—Red Nose Day!

The PolkaDots Team!

Working Parent Funding

The government is expanding the number of subsidised places for children. From Summer Term, working parents of 2yr olds will also be eligible for 15 hours funding – joining parents of 3&4 year-olds. More changes are scheduled for September and for Autumn of 2025 too.

PolkaDots is keeping up with these changes and wants to make our families aware of all funding available to them. If you have any questions about funding options please contact us or [visit our website](#).

This term's topic... Planets!



Next term's topic: Food Chains

PolkaDots Nursery

Staff Team

Head Teacher:
Kath O'Shea

Manager:
Bernadette Dawson

Deputy Managers & SENCO:
Alaya Rahman
Karen Waller

Nursery Practitioners:
Fatma Barcag—*Third in charge*
Faysa Hirsi
Jenny Scanlon
Lucy Ronan
Rachel Butler
Sam Reeves

Administrator:
Chris O'Shea

Nursery Opening Times:

Monday	9am – 3pm
Tuesday	9am – 3pm
Wednesday	9am – 3pm
Thursday	9am – 3pm
Friday	9am – 12pm

If you're **arriving late** in the morning or need to collect your child early then **please let a member of staff know** in advance. Thank you!

07528194109

managerpolkadots90@gmail.com

polkadotsinformation@gmail.com

Term Dates

Spring Term

Half-term holiday | **12-16th Feb**
Last day of term | **27th March**

Summer Term

Staff training | **Mon 15th April**
Open Morning | **Tues 16th April**
Children return | **Wed 17th April**
Half-term holiday | **27-31st May**
Last day of term | **17th July**

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!



Alaya leaving

We want to say a big, big thank you to Alaya. Alaya has been with PolkaDots for nearly ten years and is part of our PolkaDots family. We're very sad for her to soon be leaving us and want to say thank you for all her work with PolkaDots over the years. We wish her all the best.



Welcome back Faysa

We're delighted to welcome back Faysa to the PolkaDots Team! Faysa is coming back to PolkaDots after her maternity leave and will be with us in the afternoon sessions.

Extra baggage

PolkaDots has very limited storage room at the nursery. We don't have any space for extra bags for children. If you have extra items for your child, like spare clothes or nappies, our staff will be happy to take them and please take any bags back home with you.

Labels, labels, labels...

Please help our team by labelling your child's belongings! Having labels on your child's items avoids mix-ups and means they don't go home with the wrong things. It also really helps our staff team! Top tips for things to label include water bottle, packed lunch box or bag, scarves, hats, gloves and coats!

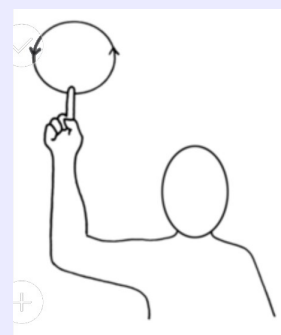
Enhanced Curriculum

Thank you to all our families for your EC payments this term. All children on a government funded place are eligible for Enhanced Curriculum (EC) payments. These payments lets us do all the great things that are part of what makes our nursery special... Dance classes, Spanish and Music sessions, Cooking Club, Makaton Sing and Sign and our healthy and varied Snack Menu that changes every week.

Makaton Signs...



Moon



Sun

