



SEPTEMBER 2026

Read all about us!

Our first topic this term will be 'All About Me and My Family', which is a fantastic way for us to learn more about each child and the people who are special to them. It also gives our returning children the opportunity to revisit familiar ideas while sharing their own experiences with their new friends. Your child's Key Person will be in touch soon with suggestions on how you can engage with and support nursery activities from home.

Vicky x

Investigators

A very warm welcome to the Adventurers who will be joining us this term! We are looking forward to getting to know more about you, your individual interests and personalities, and helping you settle into pre-school. We hope you are excited for all the fun, learning and new experiences we will share together. Our current Investigators are also eager to welcome you into the room!

The topic for next term is 'All About Me and My Family', which is a lovely way to begin the year, as it gives us an opportunity to learn more about the children, their families and the things that are important to them

We have lots of exciting activities planned for the weeks ahead, and I cannot wait to see where the children's interests and ideas take us. We will keep you updated with the wonderful things we get up to!

As always, please share with us anything your child has been enjoying at home, whether it's

a special family moment, a new interest, an exciting adventure or something they are particularly proud of. These little glimpses into life at home are so valuable and the children love sharing them at Circle Time.

Chloe, Izzy x

Adventurers

The Adventurers have been making the most of the warmer weather recently, enjoying lots of opportunities to free flow between our indoor and outdoor spaces. It has been lovely to see the children choosing where they would like to play, exploring their surroundings and spending even more time outside.

As we move on to our new topic, 'All About Me and My Family', we will be focusing on what makes each child special and unique. We will be talking about our families, favourite things, interests and experiences, giving the children lots of opportunities to share the things that are important and special to them.

We will soon be asking families to send in some family pictures, which we will use to create a special display on our family board.

We will also be exploring feelings and emotions through stories, music, role play and creative activities, encouraging the children to recognise and name different feelings, talk about how they feel and begin to understand the emotions of others. We are looking forward to many more outdoor

adventures, laughter, learning and fun with our Adventurers! **Ann and Tegan x**

Explorers

We are looking forward to a lovely few months in the Explorers room, with opportunities for our little ones to explore, discover and grow together. We will be getting to know our new children and helping everyone to feel comfortable, secure and happy in their new surroundings. We are looking forward to discovering each child's individual personality, interests and routines.

We will be exploring our 'All About Me' topic. The children will have opportunities to look at themselves in mirrors, explore their reflections and begin to recognise familiar faces. We will also enjoy songs and activities about parts of the body, alongside sensory play and creative experiences such as hand and footprint crafts.

Family play such an important part in our world, so we would love for you to share photographs of the people and pets who are special to your little ones. We will be adding these to our Family Board for the Children to look at throughout the day. Seeing familiar faces can be a lovely way to create a connection between home and nursery, and we love seeing their reactions when they recognise someone they know! We are looking forward to smiles, cuddles, discoveries and special moments with our Explorers. **Immy and Emily x**

Welcome

We would like to say a very big welcome to our new children and their lovely families: AB (1 year), TT (1 year), MR (1 year), AP (1 year), AM (1year), ARP (3years) and AH (1year).

We are delighted to welcome Izzy to our nursery team, who has joined us as a Level 3 Early Years Apprentice. Izzy already has experience working in a nursery and, whilst she settles into our setting, she will be supporting across all rooms, getting to know the children, families and the team while continuing to develop her knowledge and skills within Early Years.

Goodbye

We would also like to wish a very special goodbye to Hayley, who is leaving us to begin an exciting new venture working in a high school. Hayley has been such a valued member of our team, and her kindness and warmth will be truly missed by everyone at TKC.

Over the past few weeks, we have been celebrating and saying goodbye to some of our lovely Investigators as they prepare to take their next big step into primary school. Although it is always a little emotional to see them leave us, we are incredibly proud of how much they have grown, learned and developed during their time at TKC. We wish each and every one of them a happy and successful start to school. We say farewell to IW, LP, HFM, LB, EL, EO, EK, CT, RH, AS, BM, IR, MF, RL and MMC. We wish you lots of luck in your transition to school.

Allergens

A polite reminder that we remain a nut-free nursery. As we have children on site with complex allergies, it is essential that no nut products are allowed into the setting. We also kindly remind parents who provide packed lunches to be extra cautious when selecting items and to always check labels for potential allergens. Your continued care and attention is greatly appreciated and plays an important role in keeping our environment safe for all children.

Transitions

For those children who will be moving into a new room after the summer, it has been lovely to see how well they have been getting on during their settling in sessions. The children have been exploring their new environments, meeting familiar faces and showing lots of confidence and excitement as they prepare for this next step.

Over the next few weeks, your child's Key Person will continue to support them throughout the transition and will keep in touch with you through the Family app. We will also use handover times as an opportunity to share how your child is settling and answer any questions you may have.

Vicky will continue to carry out regular well-being checks to make sure each child is feeling happy, secure and comfortable in their new room.

Funding, sessions and consents

As we begin the new academic year, we would like to remind parents and carers that any changes to sessions must be submitted to Vicky, either in person or via email, using the TKC Session booking and consent form available to download on our website. Please note that we require one month's notice to process any session changes. We will do our best to confirm whether these changes can be accommodated as soon as possible. Similarly, any updates to consent forms such as changes regarding personal care, meals, or snacks must also be submitted with one month's notice. These forms should be printed at home, completed, and handed in to be processed.

Dates for your diary 2026

September

- 7th Term time children return to nursery
- 8th International Literacy Day - story time and book-themed activities
- 23rd International Day of Sign Language
- 29th World Heart Day – movement, healthy foods and learning about our hearts

October

- 7th Harvest Festival Celebrations
- 15th Nursery Practitioner Day
- 19th UK Recycle Week
- 23rd Term time children break up
- 31st Halloween

November

- 2nd Term time children return to nursery
- 5th Guy Fawkes/bonfire night
- 8th Diwali
- 11th Remembrance Day
- 13th World Kindness Day
- 13th Children In Need

December

- 10th Hanukkah begins
- 10th Christmas jumper Day
- 17th Nursery Christmas dinner
- 18th Term ends for term time children
- 24th Nursery closes until 4th January (5th January for term time children)

September 2026 EYFS Update

As we prepare for the new academic year, I wanted to share some information about the changes coming into effect within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) from 1 September 2026, and what these may mean for our children, families and our practice at TKC.

The EYFS is the framework that guides everything we do in nursery. It supports us in providing children with a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment where they can learn, develop and build positive relationships. The changes coming in September place an even stronger focus on children's safety, welfare and wellbeing, areas that are already at the heart of our everyday practice.

- **Keeping Our Youngest Children Safe**

As part of the updated EYFS safer sleep guidance, we would like to remind families about our sleep arrangements for babies. Children under one will sleep in a cot, with no comforters, blankets or soft toys. The only exception is a dummy, if your child uses one. We will continue to work closely with families to support individual sleep routines while ensuring that all children are cared for as safely as possible.

- **Safer Eating and Weaning**

My last Soapbox looked at safer eating and weaning, which will continue to receive a strong focus. This is particularly important for our younger children as they develop their eating skills and become more independent. Our staff will continue to ensure that mealtimes remain positive, social and enjoyable experiences, while making sure children are appropriately supported and supervised.

- **Children's Screen Use**

The updated EYFS also introduces new guidance around screen use in the Early Years. At TKC, we have a no screen time policy for children under two, which is in line with the new guidance. We will continue to prioritise play, communication, interaction, exploration and real-life experiences. For our older children, any use of technology will be purposeful, age-appropriate and support their learning and development.

- **What Does This Mean for Our Families?**

You may notice some small changes to the information we ask you for or the conversations we have with you. We may need to make sure we have up to date information about routines, sleep, eating, allergies, health and wellbeing so that we can provide the safest possible care. You may also see us talking more about attendance and absences. Following up unexplained or prolonged absences is already part of our safeguarding responsibilities, as changes in attendance can sometimes provide an important indication that a child or family may need additional support. Please remember that if you know your child will be absent, you should update the Family app so that we are aware of any upcoming absences.

Most importantly, these changes will not change the warm, nurturing experience your child has at TKC. Our children will continue to learn through play, build relationships, explore their interests, enjoy the outdoors and develop their independence and confidence.

- **What Does This Mean for Our Team?**

For practitioners, the updated guidance gives us an opportunity to reflect on our existing practice and make sure that what we do every day is consistent, safe and purposeful. We have reviewed our policies and procedures; continue to refresh staff knowledge and ensure everyone understands their responsibilities. We will also continue to reflect on our practice as a team and identify where we can make improvements.

- **Working Together**

The most important part of this is our partnership with you. You know your children best, and the information you share with us helps us provide care that is responsive to their individual needs. Likewise, we will continue to share information with you, listen to your questions and work alongside you whenever there are changes to your child's care, development or wellbeing.

The EYFS may be changing, but our commitment remains the same: to provide every child at TKC with a safe, loving and inspiring place to learn, play, grow and be themselves.

Vicky x