



Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

Newsletter

Issue 15: January 2022

Villiers Road

Issue 15 Spring 2022

Leapfrog Newsletter

Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery - Villiers Road



Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you have all had the most magical Christmas and we would like to wish you a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. On behalf of all the staff, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the lovely cards, gifts and kind words that we received before the Christmas holidays, we were all very touched by the generosity of our children and families.

We are starting the New Year on a positive note and hoping to be able to run our parent events planned for February and March. We'll keep you updated if we are unable to run these due to any further restrictions being enforced—in the meantime registration is open!



Pre school children were delighted to welcome Mia's mum who told us all about the Hindu festival, Diwali and the Rangoli patterns which are made as part of the celebrations. The children then had a go at creating their own unique patterns using coloured sand, which was great fun!

If you'd like to share your culture, job or hobbies with the children please get in touch – the children would love to learn from you.

Spring Newsletter

Staff News



Two-Three's

Congratulations to Danielle, who will be leaving to start her maternity leave towards the end of February. We all wish Danielle the best and can't wait to meet her new baby in the Spring!

Building on success

We are extremely grateful that we have an incredible team that strive to deliver outstanding practice and the highest quality care and education to your children. To support this, we are committed to ongoing staff development at all levels.



That's why we are delighted to announce that between January and July 2022, team leaders and managers at Leapfrog Nursery will be taking part in the Government funded, Early Years Professional Development Programme — Building on Success.

Designed to support children whose learning has been most impacted by COVID-19, this training builds on existing skills in supporting and teaching early language and early maths and personal social and emotional development (PSED). For further details along with access to expert resources for parents looking to support their child's communication skills [click here](#).

Healthy teeth, happy smiles!

Look who has joined us this term! Allie the Alligator is about to make a snappy impression as he shares his oral health tips to help us care for our teeth. He's brought his toothbrush so we can practise our teeth cleaning skills along with some fun activities to help us understand how eating a healthy diet is kinder to our teeth.

The children would love a visit in the setting from any parents who are dental nurses or dentists. If you're able to spend some time sharing your knowledge with them to support this learning please contact the office - we'd love to hear from you.

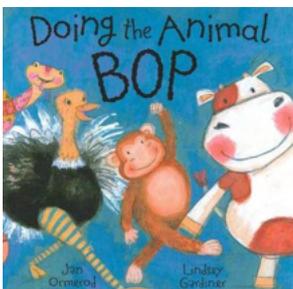


Spring Newsletter

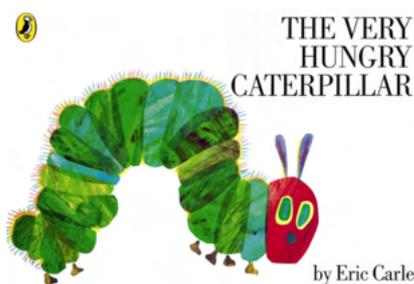
World Book Day

We can't wait for World Book Day when children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character and their rooms will be themed with story related activities throughout the week of the 28th February. We have shared the books chosen by the rooms below so that you can enjoy these at home too if you wish.

Toddlers



Two-threes



Pre School



Children are welcome to dress up as their favourite storybook character and bring a book in to share with their friends too. It would also be lovely if you could spare 30 minutes or so to come into nursery to read one of your children's favourite stories. Please either let your child's key person or the office staff know which session you'd like to attend: 10:00-11:00 / 11:00-12:00 /

Charity of the term

We hope you are enjoying your budding artist's work which featured in our November 'Children in Need' art gallery. Thank you for your donations as together we raised a total of £1,544.

This term we will be supporting Comic Relief with something for the children and adults too!



Children are invited to '**wear something red to nursery day**'. From Spiderman to mini mouse let your imaginations run wild. In exchange for a donation children can come dressed in red, as something red or maybe wear a comic relief t-shirt on Friday 18th March.

WIN! A table for 4 at the Wedgewood Rooms Comedy club

This year more than ever we could do with a laugh! Enter our 'Unleash the Laughter' raffle by popping a minimum donation of £5 in a clearly named envelope to purchase your ticket at the nursery by 17th March. The winner will be announced on Friday 18th March. All proceeds will be donated to Comic Relief.

Spring Newsletter

Parent Nursery Events

New! Stay and Play Sessions

Open to all parents of toddlers we are holding heuristic play sessions through out February. These 30 minute sessions during the nursery day are a fabulous opportunity to see you child engaging with heuristic play alongside their friends in the nursery setting. If your child does not attend on the day of these sessions, you are welcome to bring them along with you.

Understanding Young Children's Behaviour Workshops

Are you a parent of a child aged 18months-3 years who is refusing to follow instructions, becoming frequently frustrated and/or experiencing tantrums and meltdowns?

Our October workshops proved to be so popular we will be running another evening session this February. Join us and gain insight to help you understand how children's brain development impacts their behaviour and this is all part of your child's current stage of development. Discover how the language you use can trigger a different behavioural response and come away with strategies to help you and your child manage expected behaviour and emotions.

Here's what parents said they liked about the last workshop:

'All of it... Most people should learn this stuff!'

'Learning about the brain and understanding different types of tantrums—very informative'

'Really interesting/strategies'

School Readiness Parent Workshop

Designed for parents of children due to start school in September 2022, this evening workshop provides insights into how you can prepare your child for their next leap in learning. Over tea and biscuits, there will also be an informal opportunity to meet with and chat to other parents whose children will be attending the same school.

Mother's Day Events

To celebrate Mother's Day the children would like to invite their Mummy's and Nannies to a fun event at the Nursery. Events will be held from the 29th-31st March and include a teddy bear's picnic, creative sensory and a Mother's day café. Please note that there is a maximum of 2 adults per family and due to limited space we are unable to accommodate older siblings for this event.

For full details and to book your place on our parental workshops simply click [here](#).

Spring Newsletter

Toddler Room

As babies grow, they move beyond being content to simply feel and ponder objects, wanting to find out what can be done with them with an appetite to handle things: to gather, fill, dump, stack, knock down, select and manipulate in other ways. To satisfy their growing curiosity and development Toddlers have been engrossed in exploring a range of everyday objects for themselves. Without intervention they have wandered, touched and explored items such as shells, tins, dolly pegs, shiny materials, pots, beads, wooden rings and tubes.

This form of learning is referred to as 'Heuristic' play and is rooted in young children's natural curiosity. It's a fabulous way of supporting children's concentration, creativity, problem solving alongside developing gross motor skills.

For example, during play things may not go to plan— children may try to post something that is too big into a box, they might try to roll something that simply can't roll. They will learn about physical properties of objects and also learn how to formulate solutions through trial and error.



Come along and discover more by watching your child during a 30 minute heuristic play session at nursery at one of our Stay and Play sessions this February. For details and to book click [here](#).

Spring Newsletter

Two-Three Room

We've had a wonderful time bringing our focus story 'Going On A Bear Hunt' to life this term with lots of fun linked activities . Heading out to the Nursery garden for our own Bear Hunt with our friends has been really fun. We've been recalling words and phrases from the book as we go, making mud and collecting sticks before heading indoors to add them to our sensory trays.

Back in our room we've then retold the story in our Bear Cave and added our props to our sensory story trays, adding shaving foam for snow and coffee grains as mud together with props of key characters from the story.

These activities are a fun and engaging way to support our language development, build our imaginations and to develop role play ideas based around a story.

Download your own set of We're Going on a Bear Hunt Puppets to help retell the story or to add to your own sensory story at home by [clicking here](#)



Spring Newsletter

Pre School Room

We've started the term with our new focus story 'Stickman'. Together with our friends we've shared the story and enjoyed collecting sticks, playing and acting out the story in our lovely Nursery garden.

We also made our own playdough and clay stickman creatures based on our own design. We finished them by adding the sticks we had found. Manipulating these materials has helped develop the flexibility, control and gripping strength of our hand and forearm muscles necessary for activities such as writing and gripping in sport.

We've found the Stickman's family tree really interesting and are looking forward to making our own family trees and discussing the similarities and differences between ours and our friend's trees. To help us do this could you email or upload to tapestry, headshots of yourselves along with our brothers and sisters and grandparents on both sides by the 1st February please.



Dates at a glance

Parent Workshop / Stay & Play Sessions

15th February 6:45-8:30pm - Understanding Young Children's Behaviour

31st March 6:45-8:15pm - School Readiness

1st, 9th, 17th February 9:30-10:30 - Toddler Heuristic Stay and Play

Nursery Events

28th February-4th March : World Book Day

18th March : Red Nose Day

29th March 4:00-5:00pm : Toddler Mothers' Day Event

30th March 4:00-5:00pm : 2-3 Mothers' Day Event

31st March 10:30-11:30/3:30-4:30 : Pre School Mothers' Day Event

Holiday and Closure Dates

17th February : 4:00 Closure for Staff Training

5th April : 4:00 Closure for Staff Training

15th April : Good Friday

18th April : Easter Monday

2nd May : May Bank Holiday

Funded Term Time Only

21st -25th February : Half Term Holiday

8th April : Last day of Spring Term

25th April : First day of Summer Term

For full details and to book your place at any of our events click [here](#)

Look out for our regular event round up email for further details as events approach

* ATTENTION *

Important information—please read

Outdoor Clothing

Recent weather has been quite wet and is also getting colder. So that you child can enjoy the garden in comfort, please ensure your child brings a pair of wellington boots and suitable outdoor wear for the colder weather (including hat, gloves and coat). All items should be clearly labelled with your child's name.

COVID Restrictions

These will be reviewed at the latest by the 26th January or following any further Government updates. We will keep you informed of any changes via email. In the meantime, here's a reminder of current restrictions in place at Leapfrog Nursery:

- Drop off and collection continues to be at the designated entrances with no parent access
- Could we kindly remind parents that they need to wear a mask when talking to staff
- If your child has a high temperature, continuous new cough, or loss of taste smell, you will need to keep them at home and have a PCR test
- Any child with the above symptoms, will needed to be collected immediately and to have a PCR test
- In the event of a positive lateral flow or PCR isolation is now 7 days. Children can then return to Nursery subject to negative lateral flow results on the 6th and 7th day (taken 24 hours apart)
- Ensure your family undertakes twice weekly lateral flow tests and follow latest government guidance regarding isolation and PCR testing

2022 School Applications

A reminder that Year R applications open on the 1st November and must be made by the 15th January 2022. For admission details click [here](#).



Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

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