



Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

# Newsletter

Issue 16: May 2022  
Yarborough Road

ACTIVE LEARNING THROUGH PURPOSEFUL PLAY

Issue 16 Summer 2022

# Leapfrog Newsletter

Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery - Yarborough Road



## Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our April newsletter. The children have had a very busy term with a lot to celebrate and fun-filled days themed around Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, World Book Day and more.

With the arrival of beautiful spring flowers and sunshine over Easter we are enjoying spending more time in our Nursery gardens. Children have used their bodies, minds and senses as they've discovered the experiences provided by our garden and our new slide. From learning to balance on logs or using little fingers to dig and explore, children's fine and gross motor skills are constantly being developed as they play.

We've been thrilled to be able to welcome parents back fully and hope you've been able to join in with our workshops and 'stay and plays', re-introduced based on parent feedback. We have lots to look forward to this Summer including our annual Barnardo's Toddle, this term's Father's Day Stay and Plays and other activities and events. We hope you can join us.

Grandparents or great-grandparents are also welcome to join us at these events as well during the nursery day to participate in different activities with your grandchild and to see the nursery.

# Summer Newsletter

## Staff News



### **Farewell**

We are sad to inform you that Sadie left us on Friday 29th April.

Sadie will be deeply missed by all our staff, children and parents, but we wish her the best of luck in her new career.



**Welcome** to Ben, from our Villiers Road site. He brings over 15 years of experience in across a variety of ages and roles, including pre school team leader and will be supporting our 2-3 team over the Summer term.

"I believe in ensuring that every child's needs are met and that learning is always inspired by children's interests; full of excitement and new opportunities. Supporting children in achieving this is something I find enjoyable as well as rewarding".



### **Baby News!**

Much love and congratulations to Helen from our toddler room and her partner Rob who works behind the scenes as a member of our Villiers Road maintenance team on the arrival of their son Arthur in March. Much love and congratulations to you and we look forward lots of cuddles with Arthur soon!

# Summer Newsletter

## Exploring Language

Vocabulary building is critical in developing good language and communication skills, underpinning every area of a child's learning and development.

Our curriculum encompasses a wide range of activities supporting children's communication and language skills which are the single most important factor in their reading age at 11, predicting their educational success.

We've recently introduced two new vocabulary based initiatives which children will experience during their nursery day.

Each week we'll be including 5 specific words as we play and talk together to support vocabulary development. Join in with this initiative by sharing the same words (in context) at home. Weekly words will be displayed on vocabulary flowers on your parent notice boards in your child's room.

Look out for children's weekly 'Talk to me about' stickers. Designed to encourage children to talk about things they do both at home and nursery they'll give insight into things they've found interesting whilst at nursery to talk about together. Add details of significant home-based events or activities to blank stickers we'll provide, so that we can encourage dialogue about these with their keyworker and friends.

### Developing Young Children's Language Workshop

**Tuesday 19th July 6:45-8:30pm**

**Join us** for an insightful workshop, discovering more about your child's language and how it develops, providing talk techniques and fun activities designed to support talking, understanding and listening skills.

## New Summer menu

**Click** to view our new Summer menu from our specialist nursery catering supplier. Featuring seasonal ingredients, it is now being devoured daily! Rest assured special dietary requirements will continue to be catered for.



## Charity of the term

Thank you for joining in with our 'wear anything red' fundraising for Comic Relief. Together we were able to raise £150.20.

This term we're looking forward to having fun on our safari themed Barnardo's Toddle. This short, sponsored walk is a chance for children to have buffa-loads of fun with family and friends joining us in the Nursery garden, raising money to help vulnerable children. Please help us plan for numbers by signing up here - sponsorship forms will follow nearer the time.



# Summer Newsletter

## World Book Day Fun



Children loved coming to nursery as characters from their favourite books for World Book Day. They especially enjoyed welcoming parents who were able to share their child's favourite stories which they brought in from home, looking through all the pictures and illustrations together. We were even treated to a puppet show which was a fantastic surprise!

To celebrate at nursery we joined in with some fun activities relating to our stories. Toddlers particularly loved splashing and giggling as they played with their sensory duck pond, supporting development of their first words and sounds.



## Healthy teeth, happy smiles!

We are looking forward to a visit from a student dental nurse from Portsmouth University Dental Academy this term. She'll be bringing her friend, Ali the Alligator to talk about oral hygiene with the pre-school children.

We'll be counting our teeth and she'll be showing us how to clean our teeth for a full 2 minutes to ensure they are really clean. Next term Ali will be back to talk about sugary snacks and the effect these can have on our teeth.

During National Smile month from 16 May to 16 June, Ali will also be dropping in to see the children in our toddler and 2-3 rooms.

Throughout the month, the Oral Health Foundation will be raising awareness of important oral health issues with activities to join in with at home. For more information and details click [here](#).



# Summer Newsletter

## Baby and Toddler Rooms

Babies and toddlers had a very fun term, joining in with lots of Spring time activities. Enjoy the pictures below of the different Easter activities the children experienced. They made some wonderful printed patterns during the painting activities, supporting the development of both their fine and gross motor skills. These were further supported as they delighted in exploring the sensory tuff trays.



This term we are looking forward to spending more time in our garden. Children relish exploring the different surfaces, clambering and balancing, and moving in different ways. Children will be learning how to change their movements as they crawl under, around and through objects and obstacles. From squatting to bending and balancing when transitioning between positions with this term's action songs '[Dingle dangle scarecrow](#)' and '[If you're happy and you know it](#)'.

For further information about children's physical development and practical ideas for supporting your child's physical development at home click [here](#).



# Summer Newsletter

## Two-Three Room

In the last few weeks the children have enjoyed some egg-citing activities. They've been developing their fine and gross motor skills as they manipulated play dough to create floral creations and baked their Easter nests with their friends.



With the arrival of the warmer weather we've been busy planting and watering seeds as we grow plants ready for the garden. The children are looking forward to seeing the plants grow!

At this time of year children start to enjoy trips to the beach so we'll be introducing a watery extravaganza this term. With shells to explore and count, our focus rhyme '1,2,3,4,5' and our delightful focus book 'Hooray for Fish' by Lucy Cousins, children can look forward to some creative and engaging activities introducing the language of pattern, size and number.

Visit the parent boards where our new vocabulary flowers will soon be on display. See our current focus words and click [here](#) to share the story and continue the learning at home.

# Summer Newsletter

## Pre School Room

In the last few weeks Pre school children have been thinking about our garden and have already started planting seeds ready to plant out. We've been sharing the story 'Jasper's Beanstalk' which has been a fun way to help us understand what plants need to grow. We'll continue to explore growth as we measure our own beanstalks as we compare the growth rate of different plants. We are excited to be helping our vegetables grow and look forward to harvesting them when they're ready!

With Caterpillar season in full swing we will be learning about the life cycle of butterflies first hand as we raise our own caterpillars, watching them grow and transform into beautiful butterflies before releasing them into the wild. We think they'll love our garden as much as we do!



To support our learning we will also be visiting the Butterfly House at Cumberland Natural History Museum on the afternoon of the 27th May. Please let us know as soon as possible if you are able to assist with the event and, if your child doesn't attend nursery on a Friday, they are welcome to join us, provided they are accompanied by an adult and we are informed no later than the 16th May.



## Dates at a glance

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### Parent Workshop / Stay & Play Sessions

13th June 6:45-8:30pm - School Readiness Workshop

19th July 6:45-8:30pm - Developing Young Children's Vocabulary

### Nursery Events

27th May : Pre school Leavers Butterfly Trip

14th June : Babies and Toddlers Father's and Grandad's Day

15th June : 2-3s Father's and Grandad's Day

20th June : Pre school Father's and Grandad's Day

7th July 4:00-5:30pm : Barnardo's Big Toddle

21st July 2:15-4:00pm : Pre-school Leaver's Party

### Closure Dates

2nd May : Early May Bank Holiday

2nd-3rd June : Bank Holiday

11th July : Closed 4:00pm for staff training

29th August : Summer Bank Holiday

### Funded Term Time Only

30th May-3rd June : Half Term Holiday

22nd July : Last day of Summer Term

5th September : First day of Autumn 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**

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#### **Sun cream**

With warmer months ahead, please also ensure that 24 hour sun cream is applied before attending nursery. \*\*Due to a known nut allergy issue please avoid Nivea Sun protection range for kids

#### **Summer clothing**

Please also ensure your child has a hat for outdoor play along with spare clothes (including welly boots) for wet play, all clearly labelled.

#### **Water bottles**

Children in our 2-3 and pre-school rooms should be provided with a clearly labelled water bottle.

#### **Labelling**

To avoid items being lost, please can you ensure that all of your child's clothing and accessories (including hats, wellies and shoes) are clearly labelled and please check lost property frequently.

#### **Bringing items into nursery**

Please could we remind parents to make sure that your children do not bring any toys in from home, other than dummies or comforters (which will be used at sleep times and then put straight back in the child's bag).

#### **Arrivals and Collection**

To accompany your child into their room please arrive between 8:00-8:45am or 1:00-1:15pm and vacate the room by 8:45am/1:15pm

After 8:45am/1:15pm a member of staff will collect your child from the main door.

Collections include pick up at 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30 and anytime up to 6:00pm. Please continue to advise of planned pick up time on arrival.



# Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

## CONTACT US

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