



Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

Newsletter

Issue 17: September 2022

Villiers Road

Leapfrog Newsletter

Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery - Villiers Road



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our Winter term newsletter, and as always, a very warm welcome to all the new families who have joined us recently. We hope you all had a wonderful summer with your families and friends. It was certainly one to remember for us! Aside from the glorious weather we were absolutely thrilled to be awarded the highest rating of 'Outstanding' for our nursery provision for the third consecutive time! We've attached our Evening News photograph above and incase you missed it, the full Ofsted report can be viewed [here](#).

It's been that time of year when we wish our older children a fond farewell as they leave to take their next adventure to school - they will be missed but we know they will have so much fun! It's also been wonderful seeing children transition into their new rooms as they continue their adventures at Leapfrog. With the help of their key workers they've been settling in as they explore and enjoy the new challenges and experiences their new environments bring.

The new term is packed with fun activities and events, including some which we hope you will be able to join in with. Read on to discover what we've been up to at Leapfrog recently along with everything we are looking forward to sharing together.

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Staff News



Pre School

A familiar face has re-joined our pre-school team. Join us in extending a warm welcome back to Leapfrog to **Roseanna** who is really looking forward to getting to know you and the children.



Congratulations on a magical day Hope!

Huge congratulations to Hope, our housekeeper who tied the knot in her hometown of Porto, Portugal in July. The photographs looked amazing and everyone from Leapfrog wishes Hope and her husband many years of happiness together.

Charity of the term

We hope our annual Big Toddle has left you and your little ones with some incredible memories. Thank you so much for your support in raising an elephant-tas-tic £1,857.32 to help change the lives of vulnerable children, young people and families across the UK. What an amazing amount!

Our popular art exhibition will take place again this November where your budding artists creations will be available to purchase in support of Children in Need. They make fabulous wall art when framed and displayed at home as a fond memory of their Leapfrog Nursery days - as well as making beautiful personal Christmas gifts. More details will follow soon.



New Autumn menu

Our new Autumn menu from our specialist nursery catering supplier will be served up daily from the 3rd October. The full menu featuring seasonal ingredients will be available to view on the [nutrition page](#) of our website shortly.

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Families and Leapfrog Learning Together

Parents evenings

We recognise how valuable it is to meet your child's key worker face to face and are very excited to announce that we will be re-introducing our parents evenings this term. These will replace our current parent telephone consultations and will be held twice a year. Dates for those due an October or November parent evening will be emailed shortly.

Grandparents Day

To celebrate Grandparents and all they do to support and help children grow we are holding our first grandparents event this term. On **Thursday 6th October between 9:30-11:00am** Grandparents are invited to join in with nursery activities with their grandchildren – we know the children will be very excited to welcome you! If your child does not attend on the day of the session you are welcome to come along bringing them with you.

Stay and Play Sessions

Open to all parents these 30 minute sessions during the nursery day are a fabulous opportunity to see your child actively learning through play alongside their friends in the nursery setting. If your child does not attend on the day of the session you are welcome to come along bringing them with you.

Toddlers - Wednesday 2nd November

Support your child's concentration, creativity, problem solving and gross motor skill development with every day objects at our heuristic play session for toddlers.

Two-Threes - Thursday 3rd November

Join our funky fingers stay and play and see first hand how children develop their dexterity as part of their pre-writing skills - none of which use a pencil! Leave with tips and activities to use at home to give your child the start they need to eventually hold a pencil effectively.

Pre school - Friday 4th November

Have fun and share in activities alongside your child helping them develop essential fine motor skills and control. Skills to support hand writing and also independence in things such as buttoning their own coats or opening bags and packages and which can be practised at home too.

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

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Toddler Room

Over the summer we were delighted to welcome dad's and grandad's to our Father's Day event; the children had such a lovely time and we hope that you all did too! Children and our visitors were treated to a range of exciting seaside related activities along with some afternoon snacks which hit the spot in the lovely sunny weather.



Action rhymes are always a big hit introducing learning new actions, words and sounds to support children's early language development and hand movements. Toddlers have been pointing, knocking and waving along to the rhyme 'Miss Polly had a dolly' and using their motor skills as they wrap their own dolls in blankets, just like Miss Polly!

Another firm favourite is 'Row, row, row your boat' with children interacting with staff rowing back and forth and delighting in their ferocious voices whilst clapping hands as they snap like a crocodile. With fun water play activities, children have continued the fun helping them to remember and start to use their new words (duck, boat and fish).

With Halloween approaching we'll be introducing a new rhyme about a spider and various body parts. 'There's a spider on the floor' It's very silly and sure to inspire lots of giggles and tickles. Join in at home using this [link](#).

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Two-Three Room

With the arrival of summer 2-3's took full advantage and headed outside to our garden. The children have a huge interest in mini-beasts and loved using magnifying glasses to see what they could find hidden amongst the beautiful flower beds. It was a really active summer spent which was spent climbing and clambering as well as quieter moments in the shade listening to stories, cooling off with an ice lolly with friends. The children were also excited when Dad's and Grandad's joined in with more physical fun at our Father's Day event. Thank you so much for coming.



Children have been talking about the Southsea open top bus they had seen or travelled on over the summer. To support this interest children have been joining in with the action rhyme 'Wheels on the bus', and role playing with their friends handing over tickets and talking about where they'd like to go. From the beach to the library, shops and park they've taken us far and wide.

Later this term children will be using their 'Me and My World' books to look at and talk about their families. We'll also be having fun with 'Peppa Pig' family books and will have an Autumn themed woodland book area where the 'Owl babies' family and the 'Animals of Acorn Wood' live.

If you need help completing or updating your child's 'Me and My World' page for their family book please just let us know.

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Pre-School Room

Whether playing with the bats and balls, swinging on the new tyre swing, playing in the sand pit, making potions or weaving in and out of the cones with a football, children relished the weather and the lovely garden space. As well as the obvious physical benefits, all this outdoor play helped children build collaboration, resilience and concentration with the added bonus of having great fun in the process!

Summer is always an emotional time as we say goodbye to some of the children as they start school. Staff and their friends will miss them! So it's lovely to receive updates and photos of their early days at school which we share together and these really help older children prepare for their own transition next year.



Some of the children have been bringing in conkers that they've collected as they walk to nursery which have led to discussions about the changing seasons. As a result we've introduced two new fairy tale role play areas 'Goldilocks and the three bears' and the 'Three little pigs' where children have loved 'building' their own houses with bricks and 'making' a tasty Autumn porridge breakfast. Introducing the mathematical concept of size, placing objects in order and introducing descriptive language with phrases such as too hot, too cold, too hard and too soft children really benefit from the fun they are having as they retell these tales through imaginary play together.

Later this term children can look forward to more autumnal fun making Gruffalo crumble and other recipes as they hear and retell the story 'The Gruffalo'. Using natural resources and following 'recipe' cards there are bound to be some wonderful creations coming home soon!

2022 School Applications

A reminder that Year R applications open on the 1st November 2022 and must be made by the 15th January 2023. For admission details click [here](#).

Dates at a glance

Parent Workshop / Stay & Play Sessions

2nd November : Toddler heuristic stay and play

3rd November : 2-3's Funky fingers stay and play

4th November: Pre-school dynamic developer stay and play

Nursery Events

6th October : Grandparents Day

24th October : Halloween activity week

18th November : Children in Need Event

December Dates TBC : Christmas Parties

Closure Dates

17th October : Closed 4:00pm for staff training

12th December : Closed 4:00pm for staff training

Stretched / All Year Round

23rd December : Last day of Autumn term

3rd January : First day of Spring term

Funded Term Time Only

21st October : Last day of first half term

31st October : First day of second half term

16th December : Last day of Autumn term

9th January : First day of Spring 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

So that your child can enjoy the garden in comfort during the cooler and wetter months, please ensure your child brings a pair of wellington boots and suitable outdoor wear. All items should be clearly labelled with your child's name.

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

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