



Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

Newsletter

Issue 17: September 2022

Yarborough Road

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Leapfrog Newsletter

Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery - Yarborough Road



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our Autumn 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. Ours was a summer of change and settling in, with our move from our Leapfrog building at number 10 Yarborough Road to join our friends at number 13. Thanks to all the staff for working to ensure a smooth transition and to parents for your support. We've loved seeing the children excitedly exploring their new and updated spaces as they settle in together.

Further change came as we wished our older children a fond farewell as they started their next adventure at 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, enjoying 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

This term there have been a number of room changes which support our operational changes, introduced at the beginning of September.



During the transition year our Nursery Manager **Angela** will be overseeing the 2-3's room and team leading the younger rising three children. Nursery Deputy Manager **Becky**, who has commenced her Apprenticeship in Senior Leadership and Management Degree this September will work in the office receiving management training.



Ben, who joined our Yarborough Road pre-school team this summer will take on the role of Pre-school Leavers Team Leader. Ben brings his expertise gained over 5 years as pre-school team leader at our Villiers road nursery to ensure the individual needs of all children are met during a fun and engaging nursery day.

With 10 years of Early years experience, including a year at our Villiers Road nursery, join us in welcoming **Marie** to our Pre-school team this term.

"As a qualified level 3 practitioner I thrive in my key worker role by ensuring all children's needs are met by giving support where needed whilst encouraging children with their development at their individual pace. I am looking forward to meeting you all."



Aisha, our toddler room apprentice, has moved to join the rising 3's team as she gains more experience across a different age group within the nursery.

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Staff News ... continued



We would like to introduce you to **Simona** who has recently joined our Leapfrog Nursery toddler team and **Jade** who will be working between both our Yarborough and Villiers Road sites supporting children across all rooms. We looking forward to working with them and know that they are both looking forward to getting to know you and your children.



We are sad to say farewell to **Natalie** who left us at the end of July. Natalie will be missed by all our staff, children and parents and we wish her the best of luck in her new career.

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 parents 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 **Wednesday 5th 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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Babies and Toddlers

We were so excited to welcome back parent and carers to events such as our Fathers Day and the toddle last term. We hope you enjoyed joining in with the seaside activities and the picnic tea as much as the children loved welcoming you to the nursery.

Action rhymes are a fun way of introducing new actions, words and sounds whilst supporting children's early language development and gross motor movement. Children have been stomping, waving, pointing and dancing to the 'dinosaur rumpus' as well as rescuing dinosaurs and animals from the gloop.

Your little bakers also loved making honey rice cakes using their pouring stirring and mixing skills supported their motor movement development. The resulting cakes looked really delicious!



This term we're looking forward to interacting with the children as we sing 'Row, row, row your boat' together. We can't wait to hear their ferocious voices whilst clapping hands as they snap like a crocodile. With fun water play activities children will be able to continue the fun helping them to remember and start to use their new words (duck, boat and fish).

We're looking forward to Halloween fun in October and we're sure the children will love a new rhyme we'll be introducing 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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2-3's

Over the summer the children have particularly enjoyed the outdoor areas, exploring water and ice activities with lots of splashing involved! They have keenly watered and cared for the plants in the garden and commented as the dry weather caused them to wilt. Much fun was had at our Father's Day pirate event and we thank our Dads and Grandads who were able to join us.



To help children adjust to their new room, we have been focusing on the different areas which have been set up for them to explore. They've enjoyed being introduced to the activities and tools learning how to use them appropriately as well as returning the equipment and materials when they are finished.

Children have also had fun opening different boxes discovering the animals hiding inside as we explored our first book of the term 'Dear Zoo'. This has been a really engaging way of supporting the development of their listening and language skills.

Later this term children will be using their 'Me and My World' books to look at and talk about their families. To support this we'll be having fun with 'Peppa Pig' family books and children can explore our Autumn themed woodland book area where the 'Owl babies' family 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

Whether spending time gardening, playing in the mud kitchen or making potions, children relished exploring their new garden space this summer. As well as the obvious physical benefits, all this outdoor play has helped develop their social skills as they build collaboration, resilience and concentration. All with the added bonus of having great fun too!

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.



A big interest at the moment is the 'world around us' and beyond with lots of discussion about space, planets and rockets. Children have been satisfying their curiosity about dinosaurs and volcanos through exploring our non-fiction books. To support this interest, children have made their own volcano and, using early science experimentations, have delighted in making it erupt.

Our current focus story is '[Shark in the park](#)' where children have been inspired to make their own telescopes. Using them in the garden they've spotted lots of natural features, including the moon. In turn this has led to discussions about how children could travel in space, with children creating their own 'rockets' to fly to the moon.

Building on this interest, 'Whatever Next' will be our next focus story. This happens to coincide with National Space Week at the beginning of October when we will also be welcoming Naomi's mum who will be telling us all about her job as a space engineer. We are all very excited!

2023 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

5th October : Grandparents Day

24th October : Halloween activity week

18th November : Children in Need Event

December Dates TBC : Christmas Parties

Closure Dates

18th October : Closed 4:00pm for staff training

13th 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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