



Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

Newsletter

Issue 19: April 2023

Yarborough Road

Issue 19 Summer 2023

Leapfrog Newsletter

Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery - Yarborough Road



Dear Parents and Carers

Since our last newsletter the children have had a very busy month with a lot to celebrate and many fun-filled days themed around World Book day, Valentine's Day, Pancake Day and Mother's Day to name a few.

Looking ahead, Leapfrog children, parents and staff have lots to look forward to throughout the summer term too, including coronation celebrations, Father's Day and parent workshops.

With the warmer months and lighter nights, we'll also be enjoying our outdoor space more frequently, including hosting our annual Barnardo's toddle and garden party which is always a highlight in our summer calendar.

Our lunchtime menu has been updated to feature this season's ingredients and is now being devoured daily! [Click](#) to view our new Summer menu from our specialist nursery catering supplier and rest assured special dietary requirements will continue to be catered for.

For further information and news from Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery, please read on...

Summer Term Newsletter

Staff News



Good Luck Shamen

Shamen who, having gained experience across different age ranges at our Yarborough Road nursery, has recently joined our 2-3's team at our Villiers Road nursery. This will provide her with the opportunity to extend her knowledge and experience as a key worker with her own group of key children.

Welcome to Thanushya - Student

We would like to welcome Thanushya to our over 2's team who joins us as she gains more experience of working in Early Years alongside her Early Childhood Studies degree studies at the University of Portsmouth.

Charity of the term

We'd love to invite you and join us for our annual Big Toddle by joining us on a roar-some Safari-themed event to help raise money for our charity of the term, Barnardo's.

This year, our toddle will be taking place on the 6th July. Children can come dressed as their favourite animal for a jungle themed sponsored walk and activities inspired by familiar stories and rhymes.

After the walk, spend some time together in our garden and top up your energy levels with a tasty treat from our cake stall. To support this we'd be very grateful for any cake donations which can be dropped off in our nursery office from Wednesday 5th July. (As we are a nut free nursery, please ensure cakes are also nut free).

Families are warmly invited to join our herd for the afternoon helping us raise funds to transform the lives of vulnerable children this summer.

Please help us plan for our event by signing up [here](#).

Your child will come home with their sponsorship form and we'll also share further details nearer the time.



Summer Term Newsletter

Family Events

We were delighted to welcome so many parents to our first World Book Day stay and play sessions. These are designed to provide families with the opportunity to meet other parents, share time with the staff and see their children interact with their friends in the nursery setting. They are proving to be very popular and often oversubscribed. So if you were unable to attend this term here are some pictures of the sessions to give you a flavour of what you can expect. We hope you can join us next time!

On World Book Day, staff and children dressed up and joined parents in lots of fun activities relating to books they've been exploring with their nursery friends.



In March, all children really enjoyed making a special Mothers Day gift for their mummies and spending time with them in their rooms. Pre-school children served up a tasty cream tea from the Mother's Day café and arranged flowers together. In the 2-3 room there was a lovely aroma of flowers as mums shared time snipping flowers whilst the toddler room hosted teddy bear's picnic, a bear hunt and played with bubbles. The children had such a lovely time and we hope you all did too.



Calling all Dads!

The children would love you to join them in the nursery for an event to celebrate Father's Day this June. Events will be held during the week of the 12th June with different events being hosted in each room. Please note that there is a maximum of 1 adult per family and due to limited space we are unable to accommodate siblings for this event.

Summer Term Newsletter

Families and Leapfrog Learning Together

Top Tips for Talking

The most fundamental life skill is the ability to communicate. So the development of early speech, language and communication (SLC) skills is essential for your child to thrive, laying crucial foundations for later life.

Throughout the nursery day our practitioners use their knowledge to ensure that every opportunity is used to encourage your child's communication skills in fun and engaging ways. As part of their ongoing development and to build on their expertise all staff have also recently undertaken 'Best Start in Speech, Language and Communication' training provided by the Solent NHS Trust.

In conjunction with this, we will be sharing a new 'Top Tip for Talking' poster from the trust which will be displayed on the parent board in each room. Using the QR code you'll be able to access a short video with top tips to support your child's communication skills using every day activities.

See the first poster above with a link highlighting how commenting, in the form of chatting to your child whilst they are getting ready for the day, encourages them to form longer and more descriptive sentences.

These will be updated monthly with new tips which we hope you will find useful in shaping your child's language development.

School Readiness Parent Workshop - School leavers

25th May 6:45-8:30pm

For pre-school leaver parents this workshop will provide you with useful tips and advice on all aspects involved in preparing your child for school together with an opportunity for questions and for you to meet parents of children attending the same school.

Developing Young Children's Vocabulary Parent Workshop

25th July 6:45-8:30pm

Designed for parents of children under 3, this interactive workshop provides an opportunity to discover more about your child's language and how it develops. We'll also provide talk techniques and fun activities designed to support talking, understanding and listening skills.



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

Summer Term Newsletter

Toddler Room

Last term children showed lots of interest and enjoyed the 'Going on a bear hunt' story so much that, with Easter in mind, we decided to introduce children to the '[Going on an egg hunt](#)' story. Children have had great fun enjoying a few activities inspired by the book including using props to act out the story and join in with actions to songs including 'Hop little bunnies'.



This term children will be exploring the 'Dinosaur stomp' and 'Dinosaur roar' books to encourage more actions of movement making the most of any sunshine and getting active in our garden.

Rising 3's and Pre-school Room

This term we would like to share some of the activities your children will be doing linked to our Budding Baker curriculum goal.



We have started the term by making tasty Easter nests. Children have been developing their hand to eye co-ordination along with fine motor skills by: Mixing cornflakes into melted chocolate. scooping using spoons to place their nests into cake cases before finishing them off by carefully sprinkling sprinkles over the top.

The cooking fun continues throughout the term as children use one handed utensils making more recipes including fruit kebabs and pizzas, where the children will chop and cut a variety of fruit and vegetables. Children will also have the opportunity to develop their creativity as they select and assemble their kebabs and pizza toppings.

Summer Term Newsletter

Children had such fun arranging flowers with their mummies for Mother's Day that we introduced a fabulous garden centre in their role play area which they are really enjoying. They've been practicing their fine motor skills arranging flowers into bouquets, wrapping and tying ribbon around them and writing message cards.



Inspired by our new focus book '[Jasper's Beanstalk](#)', children have been busy sowing seeds and are keen to watch them grow and to bring home to plant out. Using early mathematics they'll also be measuring their sunflowers as they grow - maybe as tall as Jasper's bean!

There's been huge excitement with the arrival of our new puppet theatre and puppets in our drama and music area. Children have delighted in sharing the new theatre with parents at drop off and entertaining each other with puppet shows during their nursery day.



Both the theatre and the use of themed story boxes have been igniting children's imaginations, encouraging them to tell their own stories. Items from the box provide them with prompts helping them build the key components of their story: A '**who**', a '**when**' (early in the morning, a dark stormy night), a '**where**' (at the beach, in the woods, at home), a '**what happened**', then a '**what happened next**' followed by further '**what happened next**'.

Story telling broadens children's vocabulary with the introduction of more descriptive words laying the foundations for when they are ready to go on to write their own stories later on.

You might like to continue the learning at home by making up your own story boxes to encourage your child to make up their own stories which you could scribe for them.

As an example, items for a seaside themed story box could include people, sea creatures, birds, boats, buckets, spades, sand, blue cloth or a tub of water.

Have fun deciding what could go into a story box and what items you can use to represent and correspond with your chosen theme.

And, of course, this term we'll be joining in celebrating the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III with related activities culminating in a parade and afternoon picnic for the children who are in nursery on Friday 5th May.

Dates at a glance

Parent Workshops

25th May 6:45-8:30pm : School Readiness Workshop

25th July 6:45-8:30pm : Developing Young Children's Vocabulary

Nursery Events

4th May : Pre school Twirly Woos Theatre Trip

13th June 4:00-5:30pm : Pre school Fathers' Day Event

14th June 4:00-5:30pm : 2-3's Fathers' Day Event

15th June 4:00-5:30pm : Toddler Fathers' Day Event

22nd June AM : Pre school Leavers Butterfly House Trip

6th July 3:45-5:30pm : Barnardo's Big Toddle

Date to be confirmed—July 2:15-4:00pm : Pre school Leavers Party

Holiday and Closure Dates

7th April : Good Friday

10th April : Easter Monday

1st May : May Bank Holiday

8th May : Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III

29th May : Bank Holiday

17th May : 4:00pm Early closure for Staff Training

11th July : 4:00pm Early closure for Staff Training

28th August : Late Summer Bank Holiday

Term Dates

29th May-2nd June : Half Term Holiday (funded term time only)

21st July : Last day of Summer Term (funded term time only)

31st August : Last day of Summer Term (year round)

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

Sun cream

With warmer months ahead, please 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 provide your child with a hat for outdoor play along with spare clothes (including welly boots) for wet play

Water bottles

Children in our 2-3 room 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.



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