



Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

Newsletter

Issue 19: September 2023

Yarborough Road

Issue 19 Autumn 2023

Leapfrog Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers

Last term ended with a fantastic celebration shared with school leaver children and parents. It's been so lovely seeing the children blossoming ready to embark on their next exciting venture to school. We will miss them very much but we know they will have so much fun!

It's also been wonderful seeing children transition into their new rooms during the Summer as they continue their Leapfrog journey. 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.

We've loved hearing about your summer adventures enjoyed with friends and family both at home and away.

There's been so much Summer fun at Leapfrog too as we've explored science, crafts, sports and water activities and more, making the most of the garden when it was sunny as well as exciting indoor activities on wet days.

To new families we'd like to share a warm welcome and to all our families we look forward to sharing a new term. Equally packed with fun activities and events, we hope you will be able to join us for some of these.

Read on to discover what we've been up to since the beginning of term at Leapfrog along with everything we are looking forward to sharing together.

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Staff News



Congratulations to Aisha

We are delighted for Aisha, who has recently completed her apprenticeship and achieved her Level 3 Early Years Educator. Aisha has been working really hard over the last 18 months and is officially a Level 3 Qualified Practitioner.



Welcome to Holly

Join us in welcoming Holly to our nursery team. Holly has joined Leapfrog after completing her degree this Summer. Holly will be working part time across both rooms in the nursery.

2024 School Applications

A reminder that Year R applications open on the 1st November 2023 and must be made by the 15th January 2024. For admission details click [here](#).

Parents evenings

Invitations to parents evenings being held later this term will be landing in the inboxes of parents of children who joined before the September term. This will give you an opportunity to speak to your child's Key Person about their development and life at the nursery. Look out for dates and timings of your 15 minute face to face appointment which will follow by early October.

Grandparents Day

Last year we held our first grandparents event, celebrating all they do to support and help children grow. These proved so popular we are inviting grandparents to spend time with their grandchildren showing them what they get up to during their nursery day on **Thursday 5th October between 9:30-11:00am**. If your child does not attend on the day of the event, you are welcome to come along bringing them with you. Head to our online booking page to register for this event. We know the children will be excited to welcome you!

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-tastic £1,393.00 to help change the lives of vulnerable children, young people and families across the UK. What an amazing amount!

Our art exhibition will be open on **Friday 17th of November**. Drop in to view and purchase your budding artists creations in support of Children in Need. They'll look amazing displayed at home as a fond memory of their nursery days as well as making beautiful personal Christmas gifts.

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Families and Leapfrog Learning Together

Food adventures to support healthy eating

Dietary preferences and eating habits are known to be heavily influenced largely by habits formed in early life. And whilst it's not unusual for children to resist new foods, encouraging them to make healthy choices about what to eat can be challenging.

According to the Food Foundation, the number of children eating little or no vegetables has increased in the last 10 years with nearly a third of primary children eat less than one portion of vegetables a day.

At Leapfrog Nursery we recognise that if children enjoy eating healthy foods, they are more likely to eat them for life and are highly influenced by their peers. As a result, our curriculum has been designed to include plenty of opportunities to experience a variety of foods through both play and diet, together with their friends, during their nursery day.

This term, we're looking forward to more food adventure activities from TastEd's sensory food education. Based on the Sapere method used in Finland and Sweden, this hands on approach teaches children how to use all 5 senses (sight, smell, touch, sound, taste) to explore food. These fun activities help to capture children's curiosity as they discover new foods, build familiarity and develop their confidence and willingness to try different foods.

Rest assured that allergies/sensitivities will always be taken into account and that no one has to like and no one has to try. In this way children also learn important values such as mutual respect and boundaries.

For details about the TastED initiative and ideas for related activities to share at home click [here](#).

Budding Baker Stay and Play Sessions

Open to all parents during the nursery day, these sessions offer an opportunity to see your child actively learning through food adventures alongside their friends in the nursery setting. Discover how these activities support your child's learning and development and continue the learning with access to resources and fun activities to do together with your child at home.

Toddlers | Tuesday 7th November 9:30-10:30

Over 2's | Thursday 9th November 9:30-10:30

If your child does not attend on the day of the session, you are welcome to come along, bringing them with you. We hope you can join us! To reserve your place click [here](#).

New Autumn menu

Take a peek at our new [Autumn menu](#). Featuring seasonal ingredients from our specialist nursery catering supplier will be served up daily from October.



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Toddler Room

This summer the toddlers actively explored the garden including various water play activities when they needed to cool off. Lots of laughter was heard when splashing in puddles, playing with the water shooters and floating boats in the water tray—with children developing their language, linked to the activities they were doing. During the wet days the toddlers had a great time exploring a lot of different sensory play activities. Using their gross motor movements the children created different pieces of art using paint, shaving foam, chalk and paint dabbers, as well as developing their fine motor skills by exploring items hidden in sand, rice and pasta.



We've started the new term with action rhymes which are always popular, introducing learning new actions, first words and voice sounds to support children's early language development and hand movements. Toddlers have been joining in with actions together to some of their favourite rhymes including 'If you're happy and you know it, 'Wheels on the bus' and 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes'. We have all enjoyed settling down to explore books and stories relating to the seaside and the children are showing particular interest in the 'That's not my ...' books linked to animals in the sea.

Toddlers are enjoying related water play activities, playing in the sand and singing songs about the sea whilst developing new vocabulary. Some of the toddlers are beginning to babble and you may be able to make out some of these new first words or sounds as they share them with you!

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Over 2's Room

What a fun and busy summer the children have had with different themed activity weeks, including creative, science, sport and water play. From tie-dye to popping bottles and football, children learnt so many new skills! It has been lovely seeing the children wearing their t-shirts that they have made.



We've started the new term with the Gruffalo story, with children choosing from a variety of related activities. Using their funky fingers children have been carefully placing the purple prickles back on the Gruffalo's back or developing their budding baker skills by making tasty Gruffalo crumble.

Children have been developing their geographical understanding of the world whilst sharing where they've been on holiday, what they got up to, how they travelled there and looking at the difference between different destinations. We've loved hearing about all their adventures!

We're now exploring different animal habitats and as the new season arrives we will be learning all about hibernation and nocturnal animals.

DATES AT A GLANCE

Nursery Events

5th October : Grandparents Day

23rd October : Halloween Activity Week

17th November 3:45-5:15pm : Children in Need

Christmas Parties : Details to follow

Parent Workshop / Stay & Play Sessions

7th November 9:30-10:30 : Toddlers

9th November 9:30-10:30 : Over 2's

Closure Dates

7th November : Closed 4:00pm for staff training

15th December : Closed 4:00pm for staff training

Stretched / All Year Round

22nd December : Last day of Autumn term

2nd January : First day of Spring term

Funded Term Time Only

20th October : Last day of first half term

30th October : First day of second half term

15th December : Last day of Autumn term

8th 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

Weather appropriate 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 clothing suitable for outdoor wear ie coats, hats, scarves and gloves when appropriate.

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.

Water bottles

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

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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