



Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

Newsletter

Issue 18: January 2023

Villiers Road

Issue 18 Spring 2023

Leapfrog Newsletter

Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery - Villiers Road



Dear Parents and Carers

We'd like to start by thanking our children and families for the Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes we received. We were very touched and hope that you all had a wonderful time over the festive period together.

Welcome to our latest newsletter which includes details of our most recent visitor to the nursery since Father Christmas last December! Pre-school parents will no doubt have heard about today's visit from our firefighting friend from Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service.

We hope you enjoy and find our newsletters useful. If you have any suggestions for improvement we are always eager to hear! In the meantime, here's a reminder of what you can expect inside each edition:

- * Dates and details of parent events coming up each term with easy online booking
- * Staffing updates to ensure you're familiar with different faces in the nursery
- * Special events to help raise funds for our chosen charities
- * Inspiration and insight into how families and Leapfrog can support children's learning together
- * Dedicated room pages with insights into what your child has been experiencing recently and what's coming up next
- * Dates at a glance providing a summary of dates for your diary so you don't miss a thing

So grab a cuppa while you catch up with the fun times the children and staff are having. There's plenty of activities planned for children and parents this term, so don't forget to book on as we'd love to see you there!

Spring Term Newsletter

Staff News



Congratulations Hope!

We would like to say another huge congratulations to Hope, our housekeeper who gave birth in December to a perfect baby girl named Jussara. Hope is currently enjoying the rest of her maternity leave with her family and their new addition. We can't wait for some cuddles soon!



Introducing our placement students Annabel and Zoe

Welcome to Annabel and Zoe, joining us as part of their Early Childhood Studies degrees. Annabel, who is studying at Portsmouth University, joins our pre-school team and Zoe, studying at Chichester University joins our toddler team.



Welcome to Tia - Housekeeper and Lunchtime Supervisor

Introducing Tia who joins our fantastic housekeeping team who maintain a clean and hygienic learning environment for the children and staff. Tia will be supporting our toddler and 2-3's room.



Level 3 Early Years Educator for Fran

Congratulations to Fran, from our 2-3's team, who has recently successfully completed her Level 3 Early Years Educator qualification.



Welcome back to Amy and Danielle

A warm welcome back to Amy and Danielle who return having their own gorgeous babies in 2022. We've all missed them and are delighted to have them back with us working flexibly across the nursery with Amy working 2 days and Danielle as supply staff.



Farewell to Elena

We bid farewell to Elena from our toddler team who has recently left the nursery and wish her all the best for her future.

Spring Term Newsletter

Fired up!

We were thrilled today to welcome our first visitor of 2023, Beth Medway, Crew Manager from Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue. Pre-school children heard about the different ways the fire and rescue service help people and Beth showed us what she wears to keep herself safe when she is working.

The best bit was having fun taking turns at putting on fire jackets and helmets. Children especially loved trying on Beth's special helmet complete with lights (which was very heavy!).



We also talked about how we can keep ourselves safe if there is a fire and we even had our own evacuation when the fire alarm sounded. Unfortunately, the Fire Engine was busy rescuing some people so wasn't able to visit us today but we are hoping it might be able to visit another time. Thank you to Beth for taking the time to come and see us. You may just have inspired a fresh intake of junior fire fighters.

Charity of the term

Children In Need rolled round at the end of the year. We hope you are enjoying your budding artist's work which featured in our November 'Children in Need' art gallery. Thank you to those who donated tasty cakes for our cake sale as well as purchasing your child's artwork - together we raised a total of £1011.25 for a great cause.

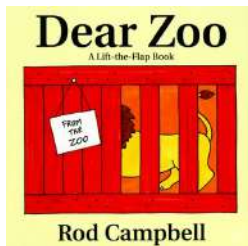
We are looking forward to our annual Barnardo's toddle which will be held this Summer. Details will follow nearer the time.

Spring Term Newsletter

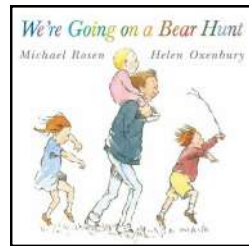
Families and Leapfrog Learning Together

****NEW** World Book Day Stay and Play Sessions**

We can't wait for World Book Day when children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character and their rooms will be themed with story related activities throughout the week of the 27th February.



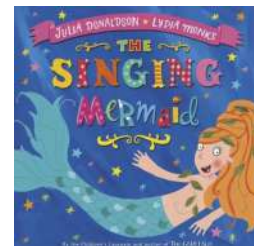
Toddlers



Two-threes



Pre School



On Thursday 2nd March we are hosting our first Book Day Stay and Play sessions where you are invited to come into the nursery and see first hand how fun activities, inspired by stories, further support your child's language and communication development. We have detailed the books children will be sharing in their rooms above so that you can enjoy these at home too. To book your place, please follow the link at the bottom of the page.

Master Mathematician (Over 3's) Parent Workshop

This fun, practical hands-on workshop has been designed for parents of pre-school aged children. Come along and join the pre-school team who will introduce the terminology used in early years maths. The workshop will also provide you with the opportunity to try out some of the activities that support children's early mathematical development around counting sets, number words and numerals. We will introduce you to the skills children need to be able to master maths, potential difficulties they might encounter and how to help with these.

Mother's Day Events

To celebrate Mother's Day the children would like to invite their Mummy's to a fun event at the Nursery. Events will be held from the 13-18th March with different events being hosted in each room including a toddler's teddy bear's picnic, 2-3's creative sensory and a pre-school mother's day café. 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.

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

Spring Term Newsletter

Toddler Room

Our toddlers do love a good rhyme! This term we have been enjoying a variety of different rhymes, introducing nouns and verbs to the children supporting their vocabulary development. They've particularly enjoyed discovering all things shiny and joining together with 'twinkle, twinkle' with additional activities introducing key words from the song such as 'star' and 'up'.



Other favourites such as 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes' and 'If you're happy and you know it' will be joining their repertoire soon introducing body part nouns and verbs in terms of the actions they can make with their bodies.

Rhymes are just one of the ways we are supporting your child's communication and literacy development. Most babies and toddlers learn nouns first ie people's names, places and objects. This is followed by the addition of verbs such as jump, clap, stamp, run. With this extended vocabulary children will then begin to construct short phrases together by putting two words together.

Next term we'll be holding a workshop for parents who want to discover more about the stages of young children's language development along with tips and techniques to help support and encourage your child as they learn whilst having fun together.

Spring Term Newsletter

Two-Three Room

With World Book Day approaching this term, we thought it would be nice to share with you how we will be developing young children's communication and literacy.

With a focus on early mathematical language and counting including size and number, children have recently been exploring a selection of different bear themed areas.

Based on bear related books, the children have delighted in re-enacting the stories they've shared engaging in some fun activities together. From posting letters in the post box just like postman bear to feeding their bears porridge, just like Goldilocks, and holding their own teddy bears picnic they've had a fantastic time.

Here's a glimpse into what they've been up to and what they've been able to tell us about their experiences



'Baby bear has a little bowl. Where's the little spoon?'
'I've got two spoons - one for mummy bear and one for daddy'
'This is daddy's bowl- he's got a big one'
'I'm sitting on mummy bear's chair - it's a bit small'

We'll continue the theme for World Book Day with the story 'Going on a bear hunt' and you're invited to join us! Come along to our stay and play on the 2nd March when we will be acting out the story and sharing with you how we use stories such as these to introduce early mathematical positional vocabulary in an encouraging and engaging way.

Spring Term Newsletter

Pre-School Room

With World Book Day approaching we thought it would be nice to share some of the activities your children are enjoying as they develop their communication and literacy.

Over the last few weeks children have been engrossed in transforming their themed book area into a superhero base camp. Prompted by how and why open-ended questions children are given the opportunity to try, fail, hypothesise, experiment and succeed on their own.

Your super heroes would be delighted if you wanted to visit their basecamp at drop-off. In the meantime, here are some of the fantastic results we've seen so far, including some great mark making and designing.



*'We need to draw around our hands.
Hand means STOP! Don't come in!'*

*'If we teach the baddies how to be nice,
they have to see the rules.
They can go on the door.
No pushing, no biting, no hitting.
Only Cuddles'*



*'We need to use tape. Then the boxes will
stay together. Glue isn't strong enough'*

*'Spiderman has a web. Let's put the web
everywhere to keep the baddies out'*

During the term children will also be presented with some exciting science challenges to solve. Together with their friends they'll be faced with HOW to rescue our superheroes if they get trapped in ice and how making an ice trap could help catch the baddies. We'll also be employing super hero powers as we explore WHY some objects sink whilst others float, whether the tallest pre-schooler can jump the furthest and whether the oldest child is also the tallest.

With lots of opportunities for plenty of experimentation, trial and error this term we are sure the children will have ideas to test out at home with you too!

Dates at a glance

World Book Day Stay & Play Sessions

2nd March 3:00-4:00pm : Toddler World Book Day Stay & Play

2nd March 9:15-10:15am : 2-3's World Book Day Stay & Play

2nd March 9:15-10:15am : Pre School World Book Day Stay & Play

Parent Workshop

6th March 6:45-8:30pm - Over three's Master Mathematician

Nursery Events

27th February-3rd March : World Book Day

13th March 10:30-11:30am/3:00-4:00pm : Pre-School Mothers' Day Event

14th March 9:30-10:30am : Toddler Mothers' Day Event

16th March 9:30-10:30am : 2-3's Mothers' Day Event

Holiday and Closure Dates

21st February : 4:00pm Early closure for Staff Training

30th March : 4:00pm Early closure for Staff Training

7th April : Good Friday

10th April : Easter Monday

1st May : May Bank Holiday

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

Funded Term Time Only

13th -17th February : Half Term Holiday

31st March : Last day of Spring Term

17th April : First day of Summer Term

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

*** ATTENTION ***

Important information - please read

Outdoor clothing

Please ensure your child brings a pair of wellington boots and suitable outdoor wear, including a hat and gloves to keep them warm during outdoor play.

FOR SALE: Leapfrog all in one zip up suits £15.00

Available from the nursery office on request

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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