



Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

# Newsletter

Issue 27: May 2026

Yarborough Road

Issue 27 Summer 2026

# Leapfrog Newsletter

Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery - Yarborough Road



## Dear Parents and Carers

We're delighted to share our Summer newsletter with you as we look back on the wonderful activities and special moments from spring while also looking ahead to all the fun and learning the summer term will bring.

On the 15th April each room celebrated Leapfrog's 30th Birthday making frog crowns and flags and of course, enjoying a delicious birthday cake! In preschool, the celebrations continued as the children gave a very warm welcome to Mr and Mrs Leapfrog (the owners Neil and Teresa) who joined in fun some exciting activities. From frog themed swamps to a lively beanbag challenge feeding frogs 'flies', there was plenty of laughter and excitement all around. The birthday party started with a chorus of *Happy Birthday*, followed by one of the children proudly presenting a special Leapfrog birthday card to Teresa. Every child across the nursery also received a party bag to take home — after all, no party is complete without one!

As we celebrate this special milestone, we'd like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the parents, friends and staff for your kindness, encouragement and lovely messages which have made this celebration even more meaningful. Although the celebration is far from over! We are very excited to announce that we are holding a garden party for all our Leapfrog families — invitations will follow shortly and we hope you can join us!

# Summer Term Newsletter

## Families and Leapfrog Learning Together

### Supporting healthy screen time habits for your under 5

Screens are now a normal part of everyday family life. From watching favourite programmes together to video calling family members, digital devices are part of the routines many young children grow up with. They can bring real benefits when used in positive and meaningful ways.

**Recent research** from the UK Chief Medical Officers looking at screen use of young children reminds us that while screens can offer opportunities to learn, explore and connect, children in the early years still learn best through play, movement, conversation and hands-on experiences.

The research also suggests that when screen use becomes very high, it may be linked with difficulties in areas such as sleep, attention, language development and behaviour in some young children.

In light of this, Government advice recommends that children under five have no more than one hour of screen time per day and that children under two avoid screens where possible, apart from shared moments like video calling or watching together with an adult.

Family life is busy enough. Add in work, routines, siblings and everything else and managing screen time can easily seem an impossible and unrealistic task. To support families who may be hearing different advice and trying to work out what feels right, the government has created **guidance** offering simple, practical ideas to help keep children safe and build healthy habits from the very beginning.

Small, simple changes can really help, such as choosing calm, age-appropriate programmes, watching together and chatting about what you see and keeping special moments like mealtimes or bedtime screen free when possible.

What children watch also makes a difference. Slower-paced, age-appropriate programmes give children time to take things in and understand what they are seeing. When shared with an adult, they can become a lovely opportunity to talk and learn together. Fast-paced or highly stimulating content, on the other hand, can sometimes feel overwhelming and make it harder for young children to concentrate.



# Summer Term Newsletter

## Families and Leapfrog Learning Together

### **Stay and Play Session | 1st July 9:15-10:15**

Join us this July for a special heuristic play session for our under-2s. This is a wonderful chance to see how everyday objects help support your child's creativity, concentration, problem-solving and physical development as they explore and play with their friends. Sessions last 30 minutes during the nursery day and, if your child does not usually attend on the scheduled date, you are welcome to bring them along.

### **School Leavers Workshop –7th May 2026**

Developed for children of parents due to start school this year to get tips on preparing your child for school, including early reading, with an opportunity to connect with other Leapfrog families heading to the same school.

We'd love you to join us as we also dive into a really exciting part of early literacy - phonological awareness. This is all about your child learning to hear and recognise the sounds in words such as spotting rhymes, clapping out syllables and noticing the first sounds in words.

It might sound small but these skills play a big role in helping children get ready to read with confidence.

At the workshop we'll chat about what phonological awareness looks like in action, why it's such an important foundation and how you can support it at home through playful, everyday moments. We'll also share how we build on these skills in nursery to help your child develop strong communication skills setting them up for a confident transition into school and support their learning for years to come.

Please note that this workshop is being hosted at our Villiers Road Nursery in Southsea which is located at No.19. Directions can be found [here](#).

For full details and to book your place on our parental workshops simply click [here](#), sign up in your child's room or email [admin@leapfrognurseries.com](mailto:admin@leapfrognurseries.com).

# Summer Term Newsletter

## Family Events

We were delighted to once again host a fantastic World Book Day 'Stay and Play' event for our families. The children and staff brought storybook magic to life, with everyone joining in a range of book-related activities in each of the rooms. It was lovely to see so many parents joining us to connect with one another, chat with staff and enjoy watching their children play and engage with friends in our nursery environment. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the event such a success.



March brought warmth and excitement as the children welcomed their Mummies into nursery to celebrate Mother's Day. Each room marked the occasion in its own unique way with Toddlers sharing Dear Zoo related activities before making the most of the early spring sunshine with a Teddy Bears'. In the 2-3s room, there was a flurry of activity as children immersed themselves in a range of hands-on sensory experiences, including flower-themed play, scented tea pouring and creative heart-and-flower decorating. Preschoolers enjoyed a creative experience in our new pottery studio, painting their own pottery pieces as special gifts for their Mummies, before proudly taking on the role of thoughtful hosts at the Mother's Day Café, serving a delightful cream tea to their special guests.



### And next up — a special celebration for our Daddies too!

With Father's Day just around the corner, we would love to invite you to join us for a fun and relaxed celebration taking place during the week of 15th June. There will be plenty of activities to enjoy together with something for every dad to get involved in. If your child doesn't usually attend on the day you are still very welcome to come along and share in the fun together. We can't wait to welcome you into nursery and celebrate all the amazing things that make dads so special.

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

# Summer Term Newsletter

## Toddler Room

This term has been full of outdoor adventures, exciting sounds and lots of chances for us to discover the world around us together! As the warmer weather has arrived, we've continued to *Go All In* with a trip to the seafront and common using our senses to explore. We've been looking, listening, smelling and feeling as we noticed birds singing, the waves crashing, planes flying overhead and the different textures such as the pebbles, grass and pavements. Along the way, we had lots of chances to chat, point and share what we are seeing with our friends and grown-ups. We also really enjoyed relaxing for a while with our books and read stories on the common.



We've also been finding fun new ways to move around the garden by 'driving' our much-loved cars zooming off on all sorts of adventures. Our interest in transport has continued indoors too where we've 'travelled' on our rocking horse and joined in with the actions and sounds in favourite songs like '*Row, Row, Row Your Boat*' as we learn new words through music and movement.

There has been lots of laughter as we play with the animals on our tuff tray farm, picking them up, moving them around and building our fine motor skills as we explore. We especially enjoy singing *Old Macdonald Had a Farm* and the funny animal noises always make us giggle!

Over the rest of term we have lots of wonderful summery adventures planned! We will be heading into our garden to explore the turtle sandpits and our mud kitchen where we can dig, pour, fill and tip as we play. These hands-on experiences help us to strengthen our little muscles, build coordination and improve our hand-eye skills as we explore what the sand, water and mud can do.

We will also be making the most of our outdoor space moving in different ways as we exercise and develop our gross motor skills running through the sprinklers and splashing in the water. All these playful experiences encourage babbling, listening and responding, helping us on our journey towards saying our first meaningful words.

# Summer Term Newsletter

## Two-Three Room

We started the term by diving into *Frog's Day Out*, hopping straight into the rhyming story from the *Acorn Wood* series. We followed Frog and his friends on their exciting trip, splashing in the sea, building sandy ideas and bringing the story to life through play. We've especially loved our themed tuff tray, using story props to retell the seaside tale and make up stories of our own, moving, sorting and playing as our ideas grew bigger and more imaginative each time. In our role play area we've enjoyed dressing up and acting out the adventure in our own playful way.



Some of us have been on day trips recently and we've loved sharing all about where we went and what we saw! Others have been chatting excitedly about trips we'd like to go on or have coming up. What's been the same for everyone is how much we've loved talking about how we travelled - or how we will travel - on our adventures. In our small world transport area, we've been creating and retelling our own journeys by car and train, choosing destinations and acting out our ideas. We've also enjoyed joining in with actions as we sing rhymes like *Row, Row, Row Your Boat* helping to build rhythm, language and memory skills.

Our interest has focused on vehicles and what they can do - from helping us travel to digging and transporting materials. Outside we've been using diggers in the garden while inside we've explored tyre patterns by rolling vehicles through paint. Playing with vehicles alongside our friends has helped us share, take turns and build our social skills. Our next adventure will take us 'travelling' through the much-loved story *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*. With its repeated phrases, we're looking forward to joining in and using our bodies to run, tiptoe, splash and crawl through the adventure, adding our own movements and ideas as the story unfolds.

We're excited to meet another character from *Acorn Wood* in *Cat's Cookbook* as we put our budding baker skills into action, rolling out dough and cutting shapes to make delicious biscuits. We'll also be spreading our own sandwich fillings and whisking up tasty mixtures, carefully using our hands and fingers to mix, squeeze and stir. There'll be lots of proud smiles as we take our tasty treats home to share!

All of this has been helping to support our communication, language and early writing skills, while sparking imagination, storytelling and a real love of books.

# Summer Term Newsletter

## Preschool Room

Last term was filled with magical storytelling adventures in Preschool with visits from outside agencies bringing stories to life with song and words. We began with a special visit from Portsmouth Music Hub where we met Melody Mermaid and her beautiful harp. She took us with her as she searched for the perfect present for the Lord Mayor's party celebrating Portsmouth 100. We had fun joining in with singing, actions and excitement as the story unfolded.



The storytelling continued with a visit to Southsea Library where we met the Gruffalo and shared story-based activities. We finished the term with an Easter adventure, taking a trip to the New Theatre Royal for *The Tales from Acorn Wood*. Seeing familiar characters brought to life on stage and sharing in the fun and laughter of the performance was exciting and the bus ride made it even more memorable!



Preschool leavers have been confidently using saws, screwdrivers and hammers during woodwork sessions. Alongside developing strong awareness of how to use different tools safely, we have been fine-tuning our hand eye coordination, focus and control. We're really proud of our creations and we've been excited to share what we've made!

The Summer term has begun with lots of hands-on adventures and big imaginative stories all about caring for our world and nature. For Earth Day, we shared the story of Green Bean and his friends. We enjoyed a special picture book by Anita Frost which helped us talk together about all the little things we can do to help look after our planet. We have loved our garden centre role play area and have also planted our own green beans! We are taking very good care of them, checking them often and measuring how much they have grown as they start to sprout and reach up towards the light.

Our school leavers visit to Southsea Butterfly House is coming up where we will learn all about different kinds of butterflies. We can't wait to watch the magical journey as caterpillars turn into butterflies as we help care for our own in nursery. One of the most special moments will be when we gently release them into the world from our nursery garden.

There are lots more storytelling and creative adventures still to come. We will be exploring bug-themed stories inspired by Simon Mole and making up our own tales about the bugs living in our garden. We will also be using sticks as props to help us retell Stanley's adventures with his stick as he flies to the moon, fishes and goes on all sorts of imaginative journeys!

For simple, enjoyable ideas to develop my curiosity, communication and understanding of the world through storytelling at home, see the National Literacy Trust's [\*Share Stories with Me\*](#) booklet.

## Dates at a glance

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### Parent Workshops

7th May 6:45-8:30 pm : School Leavers Workshop  
1st July 9:15-10:15 am : Toddler Heuristic Stay and Play

### Nursery Events

16th June 3:00-4:00 pm : 2-3's Fathers' Day Event  
17th June 3:00-4:00 pm : Toddler Fathers' Day Event  
18th June 4:00-5:30 pm : Pre School Fathers' Day Event

17th July 2:15-4:00 pm : Pre school Leavers Party

### Holiday and Closure Dates

4th May : Early May Bank Holiday  
25th May : Spring Bank Holiday  
1st June : 4:00 pm Early closure for Staff Training  
9th July : 4:00 pm Early closure for Staff Training  
31st August : Summer Bank Holiday

### Term Dates

25th May-29th May : Half Term Holiday (funded term time only)  
17th 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**

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#### **Sun cream**

In warmer weather 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**

Replace woolly hats for sunhat, 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**

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 do not bring 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**

Children can be accompanied into their room between 8:00-8:45am/1:00-1:15pm. After 8:45am/1:15pm a member of staff will collect your child from the main door.

**Morning sessions start at 8:45am so please ensure you have vacated and do not enter the room after this time.**

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.

**Handovers on collection provide a brief summary of the child's day.**

**To avoid delays to parents and to ensure staff can support children still in nursery, please book a separate appointment for any in-depth discussions as required.**



# Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

## CONTACT US

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