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November 2022

## Newsletter No 5 2022-2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

### Message from the Head teacher

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term- this is always a busy term with Christmas celebrations. I hope you all had a happy and healthy half term. Don't forget if you did any of the home learning, bring it in to Nursery to share or email in a photograph. Staff print these out so children can celebrate their learning with their friends.



### Our learning

The children in Bumblebees have been focussing on washing their hands, learning words such as sink, soap towel and tap. They are now starting to learn on and off. The children have been enjoying a tough spot tray with water, soap dispensers and towels where they can explore their hand washing techniques. They have been continuing to focus on the series of books 'That's not my' and have been reading 'That's not my unicorn!' Outside the children have been finding leaves fallen from the trees and sticking things on the leaves.



Dragonflies children have been learning all about fireworks and Diwali. They have explored coloured rice making rangoli patterns and paint using toilet rolls and hands to make firework pictures pinching and sprinkling glitter to add some extra sparkle. The children have listened to music played during Diwali and they have practised their dance moves. The key text has been the non-fiction book 'My Diwali' explaining how a child celebrates the festival. Ladybirds class are learning all about colour. They have used pegs and pom poms to mark make with paint. In the Maths area they are sorting colours and playing a colour lotto game. The key text has been 'Colour Monster,' the children have used stick puppets to retell the story and explain which emotion the colour represents.



In Caterpillars class we are learning about colours and fireworks. The key text has been based on the Elmer series, with a particular focus on 'Elmer and Rose'. Elmer and Rose find Waldo and talk about how different they are, Elmer being multi-coloured patchwork, Rose being pink and Waldo having yellow and black checks. This has supported conversations about patterns as well as similarities and differences. Some of the activities include making firework pictures with chalks, paint and cotton buds. We also used pegs and cotton wool balls and comparing the effect of the two. This has also supported our fine motor skills as we manipulate the pegs and cotton buds.



Butterflies are learning about feelings and emotions. The key text is colour monster where each emotion is linked to a colour, for example yellow is happiness. The children have sensory bottles to draw and discuss emotions. They are making kindness potions- filling and emptying containers using the language of capacity. In the role play there is a doctor's surgery so children role play talking about how they are feeling.



Outside children have been using pots, pans and homemade instruments to explore different sounds.

### Home Learning Challenge

This half term we will be undertaking a Maths home learning challenge related to 'Understands and uses number patterns.' Please see the attached home learning sheet.



### Pantomime

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November the children who attend in the morning had the opportunity to attend the pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' The production was performed by actors from M and M productions and included singing, dance as well as a retelling of the traditional tale. A huge thank you to those parents who have donated a contribution towards the cost of this special event. If you would still like to make a contribution, please send the money to the school office.



The children behaved impeccably and were a real credit to you and the school. There are some photos on the gallery of the website and lots more photos on the display in the entrance hall which you can see when you come into the library to borrow a book.

Below are some of the things the children said afterwards...

'It was a show. There was a beanstalk that grew and they climbed it.'

'The cow with the milkshake and the grandma. She sings some songs.'

'I like the cow, the milkshake.' 'Moooo!' 'The bad guy grabbed the girl.'

'Chocolate egg- it was funny!' 'I liked it because Mr Boggy was scared.'

'Humpty Dumpty came' 'Big baby!' The beanstalk it grewed!

'The beanstalk is big and golden egg and had big Gruffalo.'

'The cow was dancing to Jack.' 'Jack and Jill were scared.'

### Friendship Day

Primary and Lower schools mark anti-bullying week. At Nursery we hold a 'Friendship Day' on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November, where we talk to the children about what it means to be a good friend (such as having kind hands, kind feet and using kind words).



On the day staff will read a story about friendship and talk to the children about their friends.

They will also talk to the children about the Butterfly bench in the garden- somewhere to go and sit if they would like someone to come and play with them.

### Nursery Rhyme Day

The week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> November is Nursery Rhyme week. On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November we will be celebrating nursery rhymes. Nursery rhymes are simple, traditional poems or songs for young children.



Can you sing any of the following rhymes which have been selected for this year's nursery rhyme week to your child? Can they sing them to you?

Visit <https://www.worldnurseryrhymeweek.com/resources/> for ideas of activities to do.

### Westfield Nursery Curriculum- Performs a Dance, Song or Rhyme

Joins in singing songs/saying rhymes/action songs (24-36 months)

Sings familiar songs e.g., rhymes (36-48 months)

Creates their own songs, or improvises a song around one they know; Knows a collection of songs (48-60 months)

#### 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

One, two, three, four, five  
Once I caught a fish alive  
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten  
Then I let it go again  
Why did you let it go?  
Because it bit my finger so  
Which finger did it bite?  
This little finger on the right



#### Twinkle Twinkle

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are!  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky.  
Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are!



#### The Big Ship

The big ship sails on the ally-ally-oh, the ally-ally-oh,  
the ally-ally-oh,  
Oh, the big ship sails on the ally-ally-oh, on the last day  
of September.  
The captain said it will never, never do, never, never  
do, never, never do,  
The captain said it will never, never do, on the last day  
of September.  
The big ship sank to the bottom of the sea, the bottom  
of the sea, the bottom of the sea,  
The big ship sank to the bottom of the sea, on the last  
day of September.  
We all dip our heads in the deep blue sea, the deep  
blue sea, the deep blue sea,  
We all dip our heads in the deep blue sea,  
on the last day of September.



#### Five Little Speckled Frogs

Five little speckled frogs  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating some most delicious grubs - yum, yum  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Now there are four green speckled frogs - glub, glub.  
  
Four little speckled frogs...  
  
Three little speckled frogs...  
  
Two little speckled frogs....  
  
One little speckled frog  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating some most delicious grubs - yum, yum  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Now there are no green speckled frogs - glub, glub.



## BINGO

There was a farmer  
had a dog,  
And Bingo was his  
name-o.  
B-I-N-G-O!  
B-I-N-G-O!  
B-I-N-G-O!  
And Bingo was his  
name-o!

There was a farmer  
had a dog,  
And Bingo was his  
name-o.  
(Clap)-I-N-G-O!  
(Clap)-I-N-G-O!  
(Clap)-I-N-G-O!  
And Bingo was his  
name-o!

There was a farmer had a dog,  
And Bingo was his name-o.  
(Clap, clap)-N-G-O!  
(Clap, clap)-N-G-O!  
(Clap, clap)-N-G-O!  
And Bingo was his name-o!

There was a farmer had a dog,  
And Bingo was his name-o.  
(Clap, clap, clap)-G-O!  
(Clap, clap, clap)-G-O!  
(Clap, clap, clap)-G-O!  
And Bingo was his name-o!

There was a farmer had a dog,  
And Bingo was his name-o.  
(Clap, clap, clap, clap, clap)  
(Clap, clap, clap, clap, clap)  
(Clap, clap, clap, clap, clap)  
And Bingo was his name-o!

There was a farmer had a dog,  
And Bingo was his name-o.  
(Clap, clap, clap, clap)-O!  
(Clap, clap, clap, clap)-O!  
(Clap, clap, clap, clap)-O!  
And Bingo was his name-o!



## Beep Beep Day

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November we will be thinking about road safety. Children will be taught how to hold an adults hand near roads. They will think about 'stop, look, listen, think' when they cross the road and how and where to cross roads. Please reinforce these key safety messages with your child.



## Children in Need

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November is Children in Need. We will have a collection pot if you would like to make a donation. Children in Need supports children in a range of circumstances, for example suffering due to the cost of living crisis or with mental health issues. Locally Children in Need has supported Home-start, Sorted Counselling services and Keech Hospice Care. This year there will be a great SPOTtacular event so if your child would like to wear something spotty they can. There may be a range of spotty activities to enjoy at Nursery too!



## Individual Photographs Reminder

The photographer took some lovely pictures of the children- if you would like to purchase any photographs please return the order form and money in the return envelope by 15<sup>th</sup> November.



## Recommended Read

Try reading 'The Very Helpful Hedgehog' by Rosie Wellesley. This is a tale of friendship and learning to help one another, very appropriate with friendship day being this month.



Isaac is a hedgehog who has only ever been alone - the way he likes it, until one day an apple falls from a tree and sticks onto the spines on his back. He wiggles and jiggles, but he cannot get it off. As he struggles to remove the apple, help comes in the form of a donkey who cannot reach the apples which fall outside of his paddock. Isaac learns that it is better to have a friend and to be helpful than to be on your own all of the time.

## Library Prize

Don't forget- to be in with a chance of winning the library prize at the end of term in December, you need to have borrowed a book from the library.



## Donations

Please try to send one piece of fruit in with your child each week. Fruit donations are chopped and shared at snack time. Thank you



If anyone has an old CD player at home they no longer use because they are now streaming music we would give it a loving home!



We are still seeking donations if you have any of the following you do not need... saucepans & frying pans, wooden spoons, kitchen utensils e.g. whisk, cutlery, squares of fabric, wool, string, rope



If you have any unwanted tinsel or decorations, we can use these too!



## Clothes

**If you have any Nursery clothes at home, please return them- our stocks of trousers are extremely low.**

Please send in hats, gloves and scarves in cold weather and ensure ALL clothes are named.



## Safety

Please use the pedestrian path NOT the car park entrance, this is safer as cars can still be arriving on site. If you are dropping off to Bumblebees please ensure your child is under careful supervision.



## School Places Reminder

It is time to apply for your child's school place for next September. Children born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019 are due to start school in September 2023. You need to apply before 15 January 2023. Most schools have open day events- contact the school/s you are interested to find out more.

[https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/5/school\\_admissions](https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/5/school_admissions)

## Christmas

I know some families are thinking ahead to Christmas. In these difficult financial times, staff have asked me to say they do not expect a gift- a homemade card or picture would be gratefully received. If you would like to donate a book or toy this would be lovely too.



## Mobile Phones

Please remember to keep your mobile phone put away whilst on our site.



## Key Dates this Term

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November- Friendship Day (to mark anti-bullying week) (children only)- details to follow

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November- Nursery Rhyme Day (to mark Nursery rhyme week) (children only)

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November- Beep Beep Day (to mark Road safety week) (children only)

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November- Children in Need (children only)

Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Stall/ Raffle- details to follow

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Carol Singing Event for 3–4-year-olds 11.00am & 2.30pm- details to follow

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December- Christmas jumper/ outfit day- details to follow

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December- Singing event for 2-year-olds- 11.30am- details to follow

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December Library Prize draw

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Party Day (children only) - details to follow

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December- Last Day of Term

## Term Dates 2023-2024

Please note the term dates for 2023-2024 have now been added to the website.