



Westfield Nursery School
 Westfield Road, Dunstable, Beds. LU6 1DL. Tel: 01582 608650
 Email office@westfieldnurseryschool.org
 Website www.westfieldnurseryschool.org
 Headteacher: Mrs Elizabeth Collins BA(QTS) NPQH



September No2 2022

Newsletter No 2 2022-2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Message from the Head teacher

The children have settled quickly into the Nursery routines. We have now started to focus on themes where we introduce key vocabulary and have added some themed learning activities to the continuous provision. We update you on the themes, vocabulary and activities on the whiteboards in the entrances, Ladybirds, Caterpillars and Butterflies class by the main door and Bumblebees and Dragonflies by the Bumblebees entrance. On these boards we also remind you about key dates and have posters about upcoming events so please check the boards regularly. I look forward to seeing you to enjoy tea/ coffee and cake at our MacMillan Coffee morning/ afternoon.



Our learning in September

Ladybirds, Caterpillars and Butterflies classes are thinking about 'All About Me.' The children are looking closely at their own features and trying to create their faces in a variety of ways such as with felt tip pen, paint and playdough. The children are thinking about what makes them special. They are focusing on vocabulary naming body parts such as eye and extended vocabulary such as eyebrow. I have seen some wonderful examples of mark making where children are noticing small details. The key text is 'Let's Look at Bodies' a non-fiction book looking at different body parts and what they do, such as the eye.



Dragonflies class have been focusing on 'Feelings and Emotions' naming happy, sad and angry and discussing things which make them happy or sad. The children are looking at their facial expressions when they look in the mirror and also identifying different emotions others may show. The key text is 'The Colour Monster' which links a colour to each emotion, such as yellow for happiness and red for anger.

Outside children have been exploring the environment and been using the steps and box to walk up and jump off bending knees to land safely on two feet.

Bumblebees class, our youngest children, are settling in and learning first key words to establish routines such as 'sit' for snack time. They have been exploring the environment both inside and outside. Children have also enjoyed using soft play blocks to try and balance as they negotiate across them. The key text for Bumblebees this term are books in the 'That's Not My...' series such as 'That's not my Unicorn.' These books are ideal because they support early reading with by repeating the same format and allowing children to learn new words as they touch new textures.

Home Learning Reminder

We have had some wonderful photographs of families sent into Nursery. Children have really enjoyed sharing their photograph with their friends and then seeing them on display. If you haven't shared a photograph yet, please either give a photo to a class teacher or email it to the class, thank you.

bumblebees@westfieldnurseryschool.org
dragonflies@westfieldnurseryschool.org
ladybirds@westfieldnurseryschool.org
caterpillars@westfieldnurseryschool.org
butterflies@westfieldnurseryschool.org



Forest School

Miss Muller works with small groups of children on a variety of interventions. This term she will be working with all children on a 'Forest School' opportunity. The curriculum focus for these sessions is performs a dance/ song and uses imagination. In the first session the children use sticks to make a variety of sounds by tapping, scraping etc. In the second session the children decorate their stick to make a magic wand. The sticks are then used to magic some hot chocolate!



Library Reminder

Please come into the entrance and see our library- it only takes a few extra moments to pop in and borrow a book. Don't forget anyone who borrows a book is automatically entered into the library prize draw!



Recommended Read

Try reading 'Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes' by Mem Fox which celebrates the differences between babies from all around the world while reminding us that we all share ten little fingers and ten little toes.



Late Collection

We work with families to be flexible where they have to drop and collect siblings from other schools but please do your best to adhere to the drop off and collection windows. Children arriving late to the session are missing out on learning.

We have had a number of children who have been left at the end of a session. Children left at the end of the session can be distressed. Staff have a short period for cleaning and preparing for the next session (as well as to eat their lunch) so they are not available to look after children at this time. If you know you are going to be late please let us know. If you arrive late please come to the school office. We do have a late collection policy which we will follow.

	Bumblebees	Dragonflies and Ladybirds	Caterpillars and Butterflies
AM Drop off time	8.45-8.55am	8.45-8.55am	8.35-8.45am
AM Collection time	11.35-11.45am	11.35-11.45am	Lunch in classroom
PM Drop off time	12.30-12.40pm	12.30-12.40pm	Not applicable
PM Collection time	3.20-3.30pm	3.20-3.30pm	3.10-3.20pm

Fruit

Thank you for the kind donations of fruit and tooth friendly snacks. We are low on donations in our 30-hour classes. We would be grateful if you could send in one piece of fruit each week.



Clothing

PLEASE NAME ALL CLOTHES.



If you have any old children's socks we would be grateful of any donations, thank you.

Guinea Pigs

Thank you to those parents/ carers who have kindly donated food for the guinea pigs.

Following a number of occasions when he was being unkind to the other guinea pigs, Rusty is now living at home with one of the staff. We still have three guinea pigs who the children help to look after.



Resource Request

We are seeking any **old lino or bathmats** for our new and improved guinea pig house.



We also ask that if you are out for a walk and collect leaves, conkers, sticks, pinecones you send them in for us to use in the garden.



We are also looking for donations of

- **Small cardboard boxes e.g. toothpaste boxes, make up boxes, kitchen roll tubes, egg boxes, clean yoghurt pots, bottle tops. (Please do not send in boxes from medicines)**



To support loose parts play we are also collecting

- Pebbles
- Coconut shells
- Sanded bamboo sections
- Sanded planks of wood
- Rope
- Artificial grass
- Wooden spoons
- Old cutlery or kitchen equipment
- Drain pipes/ guttering
- Pieces of fabric
- Wool

Loose parts play

- supports intellectual development
- promotes safe risk taking
- encourages collaborative play and problem solving
- supports learning across all areas of the curriculum

Please bring any donations to the office. Thank you

Permissions

You gave permissions on the new pupil form when your child started, if you want to change any of your permissions please talk to the office staff.



Prospectus

Our prospectus has been updated and can be found on the policies tab of the website. This gives general information in regard to the school, for example, who can collect (no siblings under 16 years of age) and expectations for parent/ carer behaviour towards staff.



Cost of Living

Central bedfordshire offer some support for the increased demands of the cost of living.

Click the link to find out what is on offer.

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/165/support_with_the_cost_of_living

School Larder

Thanks to a kind donation to Nursery, we have been able to set up a food larder. The larder includes staples such as cereal, rice, pasta, biscuits, beans, toothpaste and soap. The larder is situated in the library area. If you need anything please come and take what you need whilst you are borrowing a book.



Toddler Group Reminder

Our toddler group is open to all families with under-fives and is held on Thursday afternoons from 1.00-2.30pm term time only.



MacMillan Coffee Morning Reminder

Don't forget to donate a cake and come for a drink, cake and chat on Friday 30th September from 8.45-9.45am and 12.30-1.30pm. We will be collecting donations for MacMillan Cancer Support.



Harvest Reminder

From Monday 3rd October to Friday 14th October, you can send in tins/ packets ready for our Harvest Celebration. Please place your donation in the box provided by the entrance hall. These will be passed on to the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army use this food to help those most in need, especially families with children in the local area.



30 hour codes

Please always make sure you renew your 30 hour code. Office staff need to see a copy of the updated code including the renewal date. Thank you

Key Dates this Term

Friday 30th September- MacMillan Coffee Morning/ afternoon 8.45am + 12.30pm

Monday 10th October- Consultations Bumblebees class - details to follow

Wednesday 12th October- Stay and Play Day (Parents/ Carers welcome)

Thursday 13th October- Consultations Butterflies class- details to follow

Friday 14th October- Consultations Caterpillars class- details to follow

Monday 17th October- Consultations Dragonflies class- details to follow

Tuesday 18th October- Consultations Ladybirds class- details to follow

Wednesday 19th October- Harvest celebration (children only)

Thursday 20th October- Individual Photos- details to follow

Thursday 3rd November- Pantomime (children only)

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

Tuesday 15th November- Nursery Rhyme Day (to mark Nursery rhyme week) (children only) - details to follow

Wednesday 16th November- Beep Beep Day (to mark Road safety week) (children only) - details to follow

Friday 18th November- Children in Need (children only) - details to follow

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

Thursday 8th December Christmas Carol Singing Event- details to follow

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

Friday 9th December Library Prize draw

Wednesday 14th December Christmas Party Day (children only) - details to follow

Friday 16th December- Last Day of Term