

## Dear Families,



November was certainly busy, I hope you all enjoyed Nursery Rhyme Week, it was lovely to see the Nursery decorated. The children enjoyed going around guessing and singing the Nursery Rhymes they saw. Thank you to the parents who came to our Nursery Rhyme morning, the children loved singing to you. Also a big thank you for helping us raise a staggering £824 for Children in Need. We had an exciting week raising money in different ways. Well done to Philippa Nash who won the Pudsey cake and Vandana our lunch cover who won the Pudsey goodie bag.

We have had many visitors throughout the year including Pyjama Drama, Zoo Lab. Mini Professors and Kwame the African Drummer. We also started our first trip to 'Beach Nursery' which will continue in 2018. We have connected with our local Care Home where we have been introducing music, sewing, baking and turn taking games with the residents. We had some great events too: Our Summer Cream Tea and the Kindergarten's Graduation where it was lovely to see how the children had grown during their time with us at Yellow Dot. I would like to thank you all for supporting the Team and myself in everything we do. WOW what an amazing journey we have been on!

Please remember to reconfirm your eligibility every 3 months at [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) if you wish to continue to claim the 30 hours grant funding for 3 and 4 year olds or if you are using Tax Free Childcare to pay your nursery fees. If you have any questions about this, please contact Chrissie our Finance Manager.

December, is a month filled with glitter, twinkling lights and songs that we only get to sing once a year. The excitement and wonder of the children is contagious! Beneath the hustle and bustle of the holiday season there is the true beauty of connecting with loved ones. May this beauty and joy lift you up during Christmas and the New Year. Wishing you all a MERRY CHRISTMAS and looking forward to new beginnings in January

Warm regards  
*Maryanne Strickland*  
Nursery Manager

## Team Training

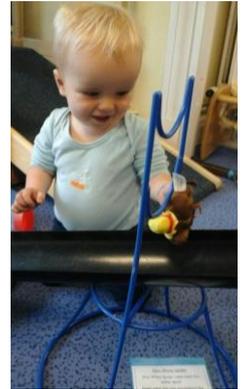
This month we learnt about language acquisition. We were reminded that the key to language is high quality interaction. We were told about the need to start with a good relationship with children, to comment by talking about what the child was doing in their play, and to build in silences giving the children time to respond. We were also told to use language in context to draw children's attention to words by pointing things out i.e. "Look, there is a bright shining star up in the sky." To use questions sensitively – avoid interrogating children, as this is something we can do without realising. Lastly to model the way in which we use thinking language for example saying out loud: 'I think I will need to get my coat on as it looks a bit wet today.'

## Dates for your Diary

- **Christmas Nativity**  
12<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm
- **Christmas Jumper Day**  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December
- **Kindergartens Christmas Party**  
19<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 2.30-3.30pm
- **Christmas Carol singing**  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> 4pm
- **Close for Christmas**  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> 6pm
- **Re-open**  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January

## Babies

Over the past month the Babies have continued to develop relationships with both their Key Person and Buddy and other Babies in the room. We have continued to enjoy Rhyme Time at the Library. The Babies have been exploring using their hands, especially with paint. We have used paint to make stars, hand print spiders and bobbin painting, which was linked to our Nursery Rhyme Week. The Babies also enjoyed exploring our Nursery Rhyme tray and pushing 'Incy Wincy Spider' down the 'spout'.



## Toddlers

Over the past month we have been getting 'out and about' within the local community. The children have been to; the Garden Centre to see the Christmas trees, Hiltingbury lakes where we went to feed the ducks and explore the wooded area as well as Rhyme Time at the local Library, which has been a real hit. The Toddlers especially love going on the Yellow Dot Bus! We have enjoyed experiencing Nursery Rhyme Week where we made walls for Humpty Dumpty to sit on and went to see the sheep and horses down at the farm and of course, LOTS of singing was involved!



## Transition

Over the past month, Transition have been exploring different seasonal provocations such as Bonfire Night. They have created 'firework' artwork using various materials, including lots of glitter! They used straws to blow the paint to make firework shapes on their paper, as well as using spray bottles in the garden to make a large group painting. They also experienced real sparklers, by watching the adults demonstrate them in the garden. This was enhanced by Transition's interest table, which provided lots of stories and photos to support their interest and understanding of Bonfire Night.



## Kindergarten

In Kindergarten over the past month we have started our exciting 'Beach Nursery' every Wednesday. The children have loved making seaweed crocodiles, making shell gardens, and exploring the beach environment! The children loved drinking their hot chocolate on the beach too. We have also been exploring Bonfire Night, where we have been learning about different shades of colours, mixing colours and exploring different ways to make controlled marks. This month there has also been lots of practice for our Nativity, We have been learning our lines, trying on new outfits and of course, singing!

