

Dear Families,

A warm welcome to all our new families. We hope you will settle throughout September and look forward to you starting this journey with us. Please do drop into the office if you have any concerns or questions.

Throughout August many of our children spent time in their new room getting to know their Key Person and their new surroundings. As a result the children are now really settled and I wish them all enjoyment and success as they move up through the Nursery. We have many exciting activities planned for the coming term and with the change of season its gives our children the opportunity to experience changes of colour, different temperatures in weather and to discover all the exciting things that happen throughout Autumn and Winter.

As a Nursery we will be thinking about **Diwali** and **Harvest Festival**, so we would love any of our parents to come in and talk to us about how they celebrate these times of year or give us ideas for stories or activities.

In Team news we want to give a warm welcome to Vandana and Simeran. Vandana joins us as Lunchtime Nursery Assistant and Simeran as our Modern Apprentice in Transition. Congratulations to Alba who has been promoted as Senior Nursery Nurse in Kindergarten and Kyrie who has nearly qualified as a Nursery Nurse and been successful in achieving the Nursery Nurse position in Babies.

Warm regards

*Maryanne Strickland*  
Nursery Manager



## Saying goodbye

'Saying goodbye' can be challenging as your child might be upset and confused about you leaving. Arriving early will allow you to spend some time with your child and establish a goodbye routine. Communicating clearly and letting your child know that you will be back is crucial. Experts' advice to parents is that the best approach is to say goodbye to your child and then leave even if your child starts crying. The Key Person will comfort your child and make sure that they know when you will be back. A quick goodbye will help your child adjust and accelerate the settling process. The transition period can differ for each child and my Team and I will support your child and and you to make this new start as smooth as possible.

## Dates for your Diary

- **Room moves**  
4<sup>th</sup> September
- **Parent Consultations**  
27<sup>th</sup> September  
6pm–8pm

### Babies

Over the past month we have been exploring digger play including both paint and mud. We have also been enjoying joining in lots of 'messy' activities, such as play-dough, paint, gloop and chalking. The Babies have continued to spend more time in the Toddlers, enjoying trials with their friends and new Key Person. The Babies have also been interested in their shadows, which they noticed when we went on a walk in the sun. We have continued to explore this using the chalks and finding animal shadows.



### Toddlers



Over the past month we have been continuing to develop our self help skills some of us have even mastered using a knife and fork at meal times. We have been learning about keeping safe and learnt to use the walking rings to walk up the lane. The Toddlers have shown a big interest in bugs so we have been on a big bug hunt and decided to make a bug hotel in our garden collecting lots of sticks, leaves and moss to attract the bugs. We are looking forward to seeing which bugs move into this new home!

### Transition

Transition have shown a key interest in the home corner and are able to use their imaginations to create various role play scenarios such as going for picnics, making dinner for each other and making birthday cakes. To support this, we walked to the local shops to buy some fruit and veg to enhance their play in the home corner. It also allowed them to have the first hand experience of making a shopping list, finding the food in the shop and then helping to give the shop assistant the money. They have since enjoyed lots more role play based on this and will often pretend to go shopping, putting the real fruit and veg into their basket.



### Kindergarten



In Kindergarten last month we had an exciting Graduation, even with the wet weather! The children all practised very hard and sung beautifully their graduation song to all the parents, grandparent, older and younger siblings! There was a lot of preparation, including drawing their own face, making their graduation hat and tassel ready for the display board. We have also been talking about the move to School and what they all want to be when they grow up, we have had many dentists, doctors, princesses, tennis players and a train driver! Alongside this, we have been learning about dinosaurs, as it is a keen interest.

## Yellow Dot Forms

This time last year we sent out an explanation for some of the forms we ask you to sign on a daily basis and thought it a good idea to revisit these to inform new parents but also as a refresher for parents who have been with us for a while.

**Medication:** This form records the prescribed medication that you would like us to administer to your child throughout the day and accurately states dosage, times given and times to be taken, as well as your consent for us to administer the medication and sign that you do so at your own risk. All team members are First Aid trained. In an emergency we may have to give Calpol but will always ring for permission before we do this. Medication is always given by a senior member of team and countersigned by someone else in the room who can verify the child and the medication given. We will always ask you to sign the form so that you are aware of all medication given.

**Accident:** This is a double sided form and will be completed by a Nursery Practitioner if your child has an accident at Nursery. It is a thorough account of the accident and will show on a body map where the accident was sustained by your child. This form will be shown to you for you to read and sign and a tear off slip given to you with the relevant details written on it. There is also some information on the back of the slip if your child has a bump on their head. This tear off slip can also be taken to a doctor or hospital if the accident warrants further treatment.

**Pre-existing injury:** This form is to be completed if your child has sustained an injury at home or on the way to Nursery. By law we must keep our children safe and well and must record every injury or accident a child has whether at home or in the Nursery. This form is double sided and as with the Accident Form contains a body map so that we can record correctly and accurately the injury or accident. We would ask please that you try to give us as much information as possible about the accident and how the injury occurred.

**Baseline Assessment:** This is a form completed by your child's Key Person when children first start at Nursery and is a brief description of your child's development at a particular point in time. Your child's development is measured against the Learning Outcomes described in the EYFS guidelines helping us to assess where your child is on their developmental journey. We can then plan "Next Steps" that inform our Provocation Planning and the experiences we set up for for the children. We will share this form with you and ask you to read it and add any further information or comments to help us support your child. The form will then be put in to your child's Celebration Book and the information will be recorded in their Tapestry account.

**2 Year Progress Checks:** When a child is aged between 2 and 3, in conjunction with your Health Visitor we review their progress sharing with you a short written summary of their developmental progress against the EYFS Learning Outcomes in the Prime Areas of Learning. Initially, a letter will be sent to you to arrange a mutually convenient meeting for when this document can be shared. The Progress Check will then be carried out by your child's Key Person and will identify strengths and possible areas of development. This information is then shared with you at the arranged meeting so that Next Steps and targets can be discussed and agreed. Having shared and discussed the notes made the form is then copied so that you can give a copy to your Health Visitor.

**Celebration Books:** These are a 'scrapbook' which work in conjunction with the online Learning Journal Tapestry. They are a book where we can record additional information showing the learning and developmental progress of your child as well as celebrate their achievements and experiences both at Nursery and at home. Over time this book will become a record of your child's progress and is a wonderful keepsake as they journey through their early years at Nursery.

Each 'Area of Learning and Development' is implemented through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child initiated provocations and experiences. Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to think about problems, and to relate to others. Practitioners will and must respond to each child's emerging needs and interests, guiding their development through warm, positive interaction. These building blocks help inform their thinking when making professional judgments for Baselines, 2 Year Progress Checks and other assessments on Tapestry.

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