

Weekly Learning Letter

Friday 3rd October 2025

This week in Nursery



Another busy week in Nursery! The children have been thrilled by the arrival of our new sand and have been toiling away digging, raking and creating in the sand.

Inspired by our nest making for 'Owl Babies', the children have been on the hunt for mini beasts and were delighted when they discovered this beauty. It then led to lots of talking about minibeasts and outside chalk drawings of spiders, centipedes and snails!



As well as making nests, the children have been acting out different parts of the Owl Babies story. They have shown such confidence in standing up in front of their friends remembering the words and acting with such gusto!



We also had our first cooking session this week, which was a resounding success. The children were brilliant at listening to instructions and did lots of spreading, cutting and eating of course!

Hands on cooking activities for young children offers a host of learning opportunities to develop a variety of skills. Using recipes encourages children to listen and follow instructions, helps develop their turn taking skills and their problem-solving skills when things might go awry.

Physically, it supports their fine motor and eye-hand co-ordination through chopping, mixing, squeezing and spreading. Additionally, cooking involves lots of maths both practically and through language. It is also wonderful hearing the children chatter as we cook, observing the changes they notice, as the ingredients change in colour, texture, smell and taste. What isn't there to love about cooking!



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Things to Note:

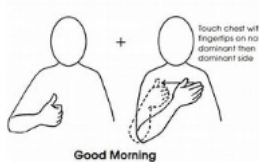


A huge thank you to everyone who has managed to donate towards our cooking resources. This is such a huge help.

Makaton



Makaton is a communication method that combines symbols, signs and spoken language to support people with communication difficulties. It is designed to help develop skills such as attention, listening and expression by using gestures, facial expression and body language alongside speech.



This week we have continued with the signs, 'good morning' and 'thank you' and introduced, 'come play with me'. We have also started to learn the song '5 Little Monkeys' using Makaton. Here is the link if you want to learn it too.

[Makaton - FIVE LITTLE MONKEYS SWINGING IN A TREE - Singing Hands](#)

Big Foot Theatre Company

The Big Foot Theatre Company will be running a half hour workshop for Nursery and Reception on **Friday 17th October** in celebration of Black History Month. It will celebrate the power of story, rhythm and community through a journey of traditional tales – Tafari and the Talking Drum, Queen Yaa and the Golden Stool, and Taiwo and Kehinde, the Kola Nut Twins. Through vibrant characters and interactive drama, the children will be a part of bringing these stories to life.

Stay and Play

The first Stay and Play session will be on **Wednesday 22nd October**. It is a lovely weekly session for parents to stay with their children at drop off for 45 minutes. It's a great opportunity to see your child in the Nursery environment and meet other parents. The timings are:

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- 8.45am – 9.30am
- 12.30pm - 1.15pm

Starting primary school in 2026

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2024, please remember, the deadline for school applications is **Thursday 15th January 2026**. If you need any help completing the online application, please do talk to a member of staff.

Evidence Me

To support the children's learning in nursery, we use an App called Evidence Me. It is a digital platform created for teachers, schools, and childminders. It allows staff to record children's learning quickly and clearly and uses photos, videos, and written notes to capture evidence of progress and their experiences. Everything is stored securely in one place and can be accessed anytime. The platform also connects parents with their child's education. This makes learning more transparent and collaborative. Each term, we will email you at least 3 observations of your child's learning. Before the end of term, you will receive a link to join the Evidence Me platform. This will allow you to also upload photos of your child's learning if you so choose.

We hope you have a lovely weekend and be safe and hold onto your hats if you're venturing out in the wind.

Fiona, Katrina, Amy, Zindzi and Tracey